

12-11-2008

## The Montclarion, December 11, 2008

The Montclarion

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# DISNEY PROGRAM EXPERIENCES

PG3

## Weekend WEATHER

FRI: 12/12 39°  
SAT: 12/13 37°  
SUN: 12/14 39°

# THE MONTCLARION

The Student Voice of Montclair State University Since 1928

TheMontclarion.org

Vol.

88

Issue 13  
December 11, 2008

## U. Hall Fires Worry Students, Cause Inconvenience

Kulsoom Rizvi  
Assistant News Editor

The MSU police department responded to three instances of arson last Wednesday at University Hall, according to the police blotter, which makes a total of nine arson instances this semester.

The building was closed down at 8:30 p.m. for further investigation and remained closed until Thursday morning. Classes were cancelled for the evening as well as all activities and the computing lab.

Due to the cancellation, fall-

culty had the option of holding Wednesday evening classes yes-

**"It is alarming because it has happened more than once. The thought that someone is risking people's lives is scary."**

Laura Kuzinski  
Freshman



Three instances of arson was reported last Wednesday, which resulted in cancellation of evening classes. Professors had the option of holding Wednesday evening classes yesterday to gain additional time.

Continued on Page 4

## Technical Difficulties Delay Distribution of Yearbooks

Kristie Cattafi  
News Editor

The 2008 centennial yearbook has not been distributed yet due to technical difficulties, according to Diana Salameh, editor-in-chief of *La Campana*, Montclair State University's yearbook.

The yearbook is currently at press for 3,000 copies and is expected to come in before Jan. 20, Salameh explained. "We had some technical difficulties, but in terms of content, we were able to put together a tip-top yearbook in a short amount of time," Salameh said.

Some of the problems were

**"It is unfair to the students that graduated and still don't have their yearbooks, and to the SGA, who gives the organization money."**

Michael Dengelegi  
SGA Treasurer

Continued on Page 6

## MSU Applications, Enrollment Rises 6,082 Freshmen Applications Received So Far

Jackie Zygadlo  
Assistant News Editor

It's only December, and already 6,082 freshmen have applied to Montclair State University, according to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, as state schools in New Jersey are receiving more applications than ever.

Some reasons that schools are seeing such a significant increase in applications is that students are seeing the value of education and the kind of jobs they can get with a degree.

"It's affordable and close to the city. Students choose Montclair for its academics and location more than anything else," said student ambassador and sophomore biology major Lauren Fitzgerald.

Jason Langdon, director of admissions, expects to have over 12,000 applications by the March 1 deadline. Less than 6,000 applicants will be accepted. 3,500 students attended the three fall open houses of New Jersey's second

largest university.

By this time last year, ac-

office of Institutional Research, 17,475 students are enrolled as undergraduates and graduates.

"Montclair State has a strong reputation, [has] a great location and is a terrific value for higher education. Combine those factors with an increase in students graduating and attending college from N.J. high schools, and it is easy to see why we would see an increase in enrollment," said Langdon.

The Undergraduate Admissions homepage describes Montclair as 246-acre, suburban, park-like campus (14 miles from New York City), as having over 250 majors, minors and concentrations, a student/faculty ratio of 17:1, 17 Division III Athletic programs for men and women and over 200 clubs. It also cites safety as a top priority.

Tuition for in-state students is \$3,418.39 per semester and \$7,307.5 per semester for out-of-

According to *The Bergen Record*, 4,106 students had applied. According to the Quick Facts for Fall 2008 provided by the Of-

- 6,082 Freshman have applied to MSU
- Over 12,000 applications expected by March 1st deadline
- Less than 6,000 applicants will be accepted
- 17,475 student are currently enrolled as undergraduates and graduate students
- This time last year 4,106 students applied.

Continued on Page 4

## Executive Treasurer for Spring Semester Not Selected

### New Treasurer Recommendation Vote Fails

Kristie Cattafi  
News Editor

The SGA did not select a new executive treasurer at the last scheduled meeting of the semester after heavy debate and a five and a half hour long meeting took place.

A new executive treasurer needs to be elected for the 2009 spring semester because current executive treasurer Michael Dengelegi will be resigning due to his recent acceptance in to culinary school.

SGA President Ron Chicken explained during yesterday's meeting that there are two methods in filling a vacant position: someone must be elected, or someone must be appointed.

After the legislature passed a motion to suspend articles and rules in order in order for the recommendation process to begin, Chicken presented Michelle Tomaszewski to be the new treasurer.

Tomaszewski was last year's

Continued on Page 8

## Friday Bomb Threat Disrupts Classes

Jackie Zygadlo  
Assistant News Editor

Classes were disrupted last Friday morning after University Hall was closed following a bomb threat.

According to Minne Ho, director of communications, on Dec. 5, there was a bomb threat

made in a note left in a public area.

University Police were immediately contacted, and the building was closed before 8:30 a.m. classes started.

Bomb investigators and a K-9 unit from the Passaic County Sheriff's Office performed a thorough search of the building.

At 8:27 a.m., students were notified via e-mail and text mes-

sage that University Hall was closed and classes were cancelled. A half hour later, 10 a.m. classes were also canceled.

At 11:21 a.m., students received notification that University Hall would be closed for the remainder of the day.

Three minutes later, a message was sent informing students that University Hall would be open for classes at 11:30 a.m.

and to disregard the previous message.

Right after the first text message was sent, investigators on scene cleared the building for opening.

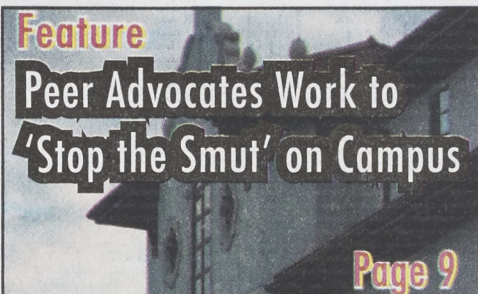
In response to the threat, the Office of Information Technology made a make-shift computer lab in College Hall to accommodate students who usually used the fifth floor computer lab to print

papers.

"Bomb threats are a nuisance and criminal offense," was the headline that appeared on the front page of *The Montclarion* on March 21, 1985, bringing the number of bomb threats that year up to 34.

In 1983, 35 bomb threats were made, proving Montclair State University, even 23 years ago, was no stranger to them.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! NEXT MONTCLARION ISSUE 1/22





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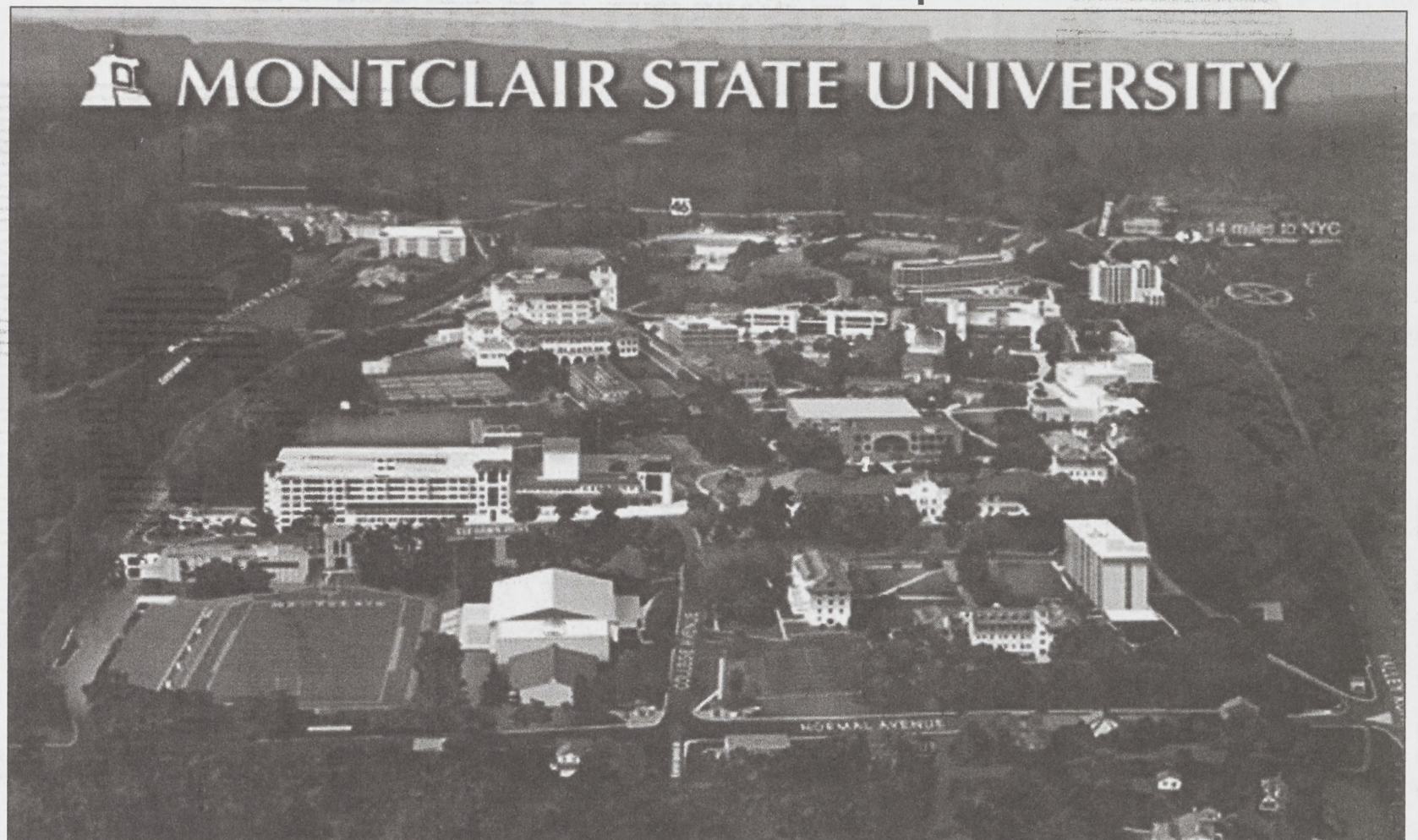
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# Pelican Police Report



- 1 On Dec. 2:** The MSU P.D. was dispatched to one count of arson in University Hall. This case is under investigation.
- 2 On Dec. 2:** An MSU employee reported the theft of a table from Dickson Hall.
- 3 On Dec. 3:** The MSU P.D. responded to three counts of arson in University Hall. This case is under investigation.
- 4 On Dec. 5:** The MSU P.D. received a false report of a bomb threat in University Hall. This case is under investigation.
- 5 On Dec. 5:** A student reported being harassed and threatened by a known suspect while on the campus of Montclair State University. The victim has refused to press criminal charges.
- 6 On Dec. 5:** An MSU employee reported criminal mischief damage to a door in Kasser Theater.
- 7 On Dec. 5:** A student reported being assaulted by a known suspect while in Blanton Hall. Criminal charges are being pursued.
- 8 On Dec. 6:** A student reported being threatened by a known suspect while in Blanton Hall. Criminal charges are being pursued.
- 9 On Dec. 6:** A student reported being harassed by a known suspect while in Freeman Hall.
- 10 On Dec. 7:** Daniel Hernandez and Xavier Bedward were charged with underage possession and consumption of alcohol while in Bohn Hall.
- 11 On Dec. 7:** Peter Vanloan was charged with underage possession and consumption of alcohol while in Bohn Hall.
- 12 On Dec. 7:** Chelsea Warner and James Schuenemann were charged with underage possession and consumption of alcohol while in Bohn Hall. Christopher Hillger was charged with underage consumption of alcohol while in Bohn Hall.

Anyone who has information regarding these incidents is urged to call the police station from any campus phone at T-IPS (8477). All calls are strictly confidential.

## SGA Notes

Due to a statute change, Greek organizations are Class V organizations. Class IV is a new organization type. A bill was passed endorsing the installation of automatic doors at various campus buildings for handicapped students and faculty.

## The Montclarion

The Montclarion is a freely distributed newspaper providing one copy per person. Additional copies are \$0.25

## Corrections

The Montclarion willingly corrects its factual errors. If you think that we've made a mistake in a story, please call Editor-in-Chief Bobby at ext. 5230.

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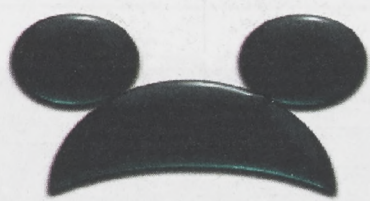
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Jackie Zygadlo  
Assistant News Editor

## Students Gain Experience Through Disney Program



Disney representatives come to campus twice a year to recruit students. Students can choose to go to Disney World for the fall semester only, spring semester only or the Spring Advantage and Fall Advantage programs which include the spring/summer and summer/fall.

Students live in a housing village that is designed for regular living and can be rented to other people if Disney does not need to use them for students. They are located very close to the Disney property, and shuttle service is available.

"The Disney Program can be a life-changing experience that leaves you with the magical credential of being able to say 'I worked for Disney,'" said Dr. Jack Samuels.

Samuels, part of the MSU marketing department, oversees the program.

Thirty students have been interviewed for the spring semester. There are five U.S. students in the Disney program. Samuels started the international program two years ago, and it now has 500 Korean and Chinese students at Disney.

"This makes Montclair State University the largest presence of any university at Walt Disney World," said Samuels.

Samuels invested his own money and time visiting students most semesters since he started the program at Montclair 25 years ago. He keeps in touch with students by phone and a computer program called Placepro, which helps universities supervise internships.

The Cooperative Education office also provides students with training before they leave for Disney. The recruitment and training is coordinated by Samuels and his partner and co-coordinator Elaine Russo.

"As a result of the fact that we provide service, training and credit to our students, our completion rate for the Disney program is better than 95 percent compared to a much lower national average for USA Students," said Samuels.

Montclair State has over 300 Disney College Program alumni and several

thousand Chinese and Korean students.

### Kyle Stout

Senior communications major Kyle Stout spent a semester in Disney World because he "wanted to do something with [his] college experience besides just learn." He went to a Disney presentation and knew it was the perfect thing for him to do.

Kyle was in Disney World from August 2007 to January 2008. His main job was working in retail and merchandizing. He worked at the Epcot store, MouseGear. His favorite role was pouring wine and beer all day in the different countries at Epcot at food and wine festivals.

"I learned so much while I was down there," Stout said.

Kyle learned that he could live away from home for six months and not have any problems. He also learned how to speak other languages and learned about cultures from all over the world.

Kyle even got to meet and served Aerosmith front man, Steven Tyler.

"I spent 45 minutes having a conversation with him about his life, and music, and everything under the sun," Stout said.

Kyle also made friends from all over the world and has best friends in Brazil, Puerto Rico and China that he still keeps in touch with.

### Tori Panetta

Tori Panetta, a senior broadcasting major, has been in Disney World for 14 weeks with five weeks left and can't believe her stay at Disney is almost over. Time flies by between her job at Disney, classes and activities.

"I'm excited to get back to Jersey, but I'm so sad for it to be over," said Panetta.

Panetta wanted to work for the Disney Company her whole life. Panetta's dream job is to work at ABC Sports in Philadelphia or ESPN in Manhattan, both are owned by the Disney Company. So, by participating in the Disney College Program, Panetta got to fulfill her lifelong



Picture Courtesy of Tori Panetta

Senior Tori Panetta (Middle) takes a picture with her co-workers at Disney's Yacht and Beach Club Resort at the Cape May Café.

dream. Working at Disney looks good on a resumé because it's a Fortune-100 company.

"When you work for Disney, you're working for one of the best. I wanted to be a part of that," said Panetta.

Panetta works in Disney's Yacht and Beach Club Resort at the Cape May Café. She first started as hostess, but now she works with Disney's reservation system. She checks the 700 guests in to the restaurant each night when they arrive and uses a portable computer system during dinner shifts which allows her to take control over the dining room.

"The biggest thing I learned was customer service. Every single move that we make is for our guests. I have learned that, above all, the guest needs to be happy. That's what it's all about," said Panetta.

Panetta has also become more interested in the hospitality field, which she will look more into after she graduates in the spring.

Panetta, a football fan, got to meet Chris Cooley and Jason Campbell of the Washington Redskins, who were staying at the resort.

"I also get to work with Minnie Mouse, Goofy and Donald Duck every morning during the breakfast shift. Now, you tell me, who is more famous than Disney's characters?" Panetta concluded, capturing what Disney World is all about.

### Amanda Leslie

Amanda Leslie thought it would be a good experience to do the Disney College program this fall at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida, to give herself a chance to be on her own while simultaneously reliving her childhood.

At the time she applied for the program, Leslie, a sophomore, thought it was good for her business major, but now it's even better for her biology major.

Montclair State University's Disney College Program for International Stu-

dents is also known as International Attraction & Tourism Program. It is offered through the School of Business and Global Education Center. Leslie works as a costumer at Magic Kingdom where she helps with costumes for parades and shows. She wears her own costume, a red, green and blue bowling shirt. When she first applied for the program, she originally wanted to be a performer.

Leslie works a 35-40-hour work week. She provides the costumes for all the characters, washes the costumes and sends them out to be dry-cleaned. She also has to work on holidays.

Celebrities are among the frequent guests at Disney World. Leslie has had near-celebrity encounters with Michael Phelps, the Jonas Brothers and Johnny Depp.

Leslie is taking a class called Disney Corporation Analysis which is about the history of Disney World and the steps taken to make an even bigger global company. She is also taking independent study classes for her biology/premed major.

Students earn 12 credits from MSU and a Certificate of Completion from both Montclair State and the Disney College and International Programs.

Leslie lives in the Vista Way apartment complex, one of four complexes designed for college students. The one-to-four bedroom apartment complexes are fully furnished and include utilities.

"It is a good way for college students to get networking contacts and meet people in future careers. It also looks good on resumé because it is a big corporation," said Leslie.

Students can apply for the Disney college program online or on paper. Once an application is filled out, a phone interview is scheduled, and a presentation is watched online or at MSU.

After the phone interview, a student finds out four to six weeks later if he or she has been accepted into the program. They have two weeks to decide whether to accept the offer.



Picture Courtesy of Kyle Stout

Senior Kyle Stout poses with Disney characters Minnie and Mickey Mouse.

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## U. Hall Fires

Continued From Page 1

terday as a way to add class time before final exams, according to Minne Ho, director of communications.

Little Falls Fire Department were outside yesterday evening in case another fire would be reported and two "undercover" cops were spotted walking casually through the hallways.

"It is alarming because it has happened more than once. The thought that someone is risking people's lives is scary," freshman Laura Kuzinski said.

Students stated that they have seen police officers stationed outside the University Hall bathrooms and have also seen the "undercover" cops sitting in the hallways.

Freshman Corina Apaza said that having bathroom monitors would be a good solution to find out who is behind these purposely set fires; however, she added that the police officers are "intimidating."

Kuzinski also agreed with Apaza about the officers stationed inside the building, and although she feels safer, having the police walking around campus makes the situation "more tense and uncomfortable."

President Susan Cole sent out a campus-wide e-mail updating the students on the ongoing arson investigation.

"The university response to these incidents has been immediate, and fortunately no injuries have occurred, although the incidents have caused great inconvenience to university students and faculty," Cole stated in the e-mail.

Cole said that the university is "taking every possible initiative" to ensure safety on campus.

"The University Police Department, in conjunction with other state agencies, is pursuing the investigation of this matter as a highest priority, and any individuals found to be involved in these incidents will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."

According to Director of Media Relations Paula Maliandi, the campus po-

lice are cooperating with the state arson investigators, the county police and all local authorities as a way to secure the campus and continue the arson investigation.

Freshman Rosanne Khalil stated that the police are doing their best in ensuring everyone's safety; however, she added that there should be more security at University Hall.

"If you notice, you don't see any cops or security guards patrolling the building," she said. "You see them driving around campus, but I never see any police officers in any buildings. I do feel safe, but whoever is setting these [fires] is being inconsiderate, and people might get really hurt."

According to Ho, the university might plan on changing the lock system to the bathrooms in University Hall.

Junior Elizabeth LeBarbera said that she was not fully aware of the ongoing arson instances this semester; however, she also feels that the situation is "getting out of hand" and "ridiculous."

"I am a transfer student, so this is my first year here. One of my friends who is about to graduate said that this has been the most ridiculous semester because of all the fires that have been reported," LeBarbera said. "This is the kind of stuff that goes on in high school where kids pull the fire alarm, but this is more dangerous."

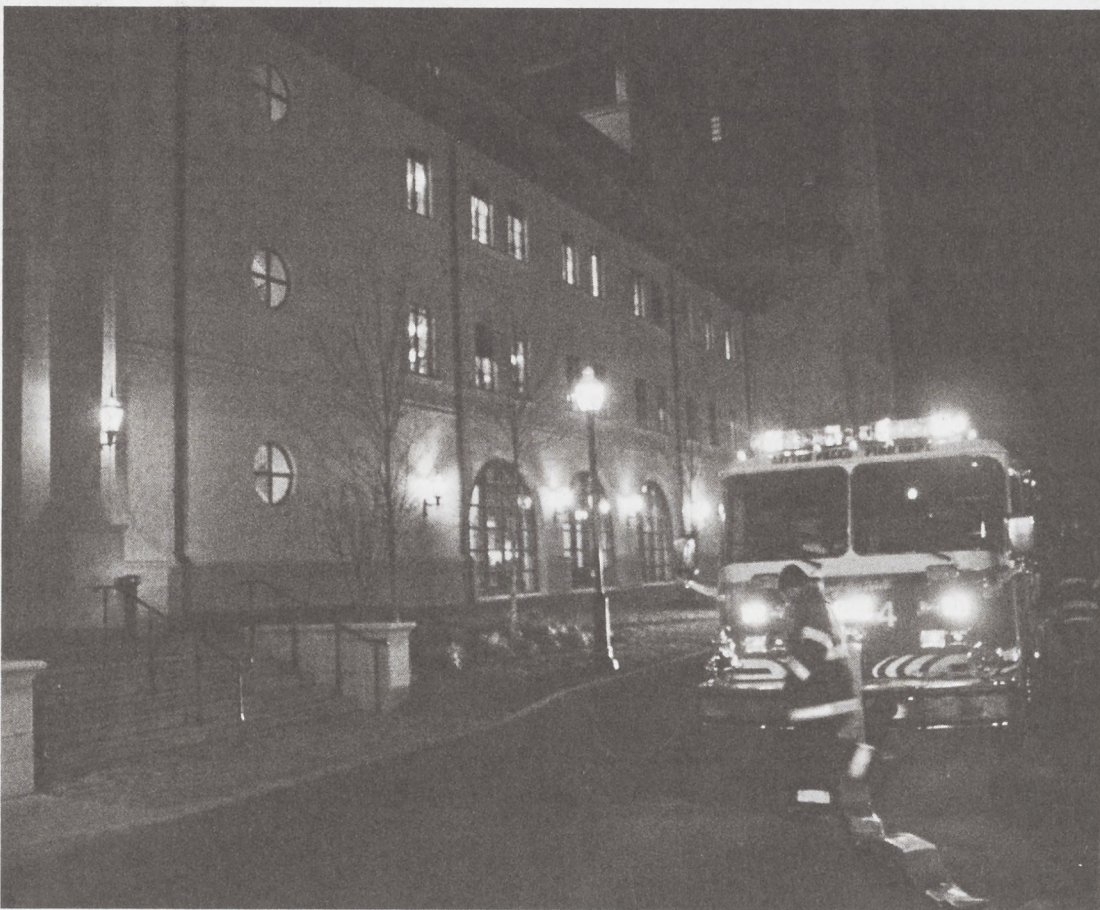
Little Falls Fire Department and MSU EMT units responded to a fire on Friday after a Partridge Hall employee smelled smoke and pulled the fire alarm. According to Maliandi, there was no fire found in the building.

The police were not able to release much information concerning the recent fire at University Hall due to ongoing investigation.

"In matters of urgency, [we] must utilize a coordinated public information effort from University Communications," Lieutenant Kieran Barrett said. "This is university policy, which we support."



Matthew McCullough | The Montclarion

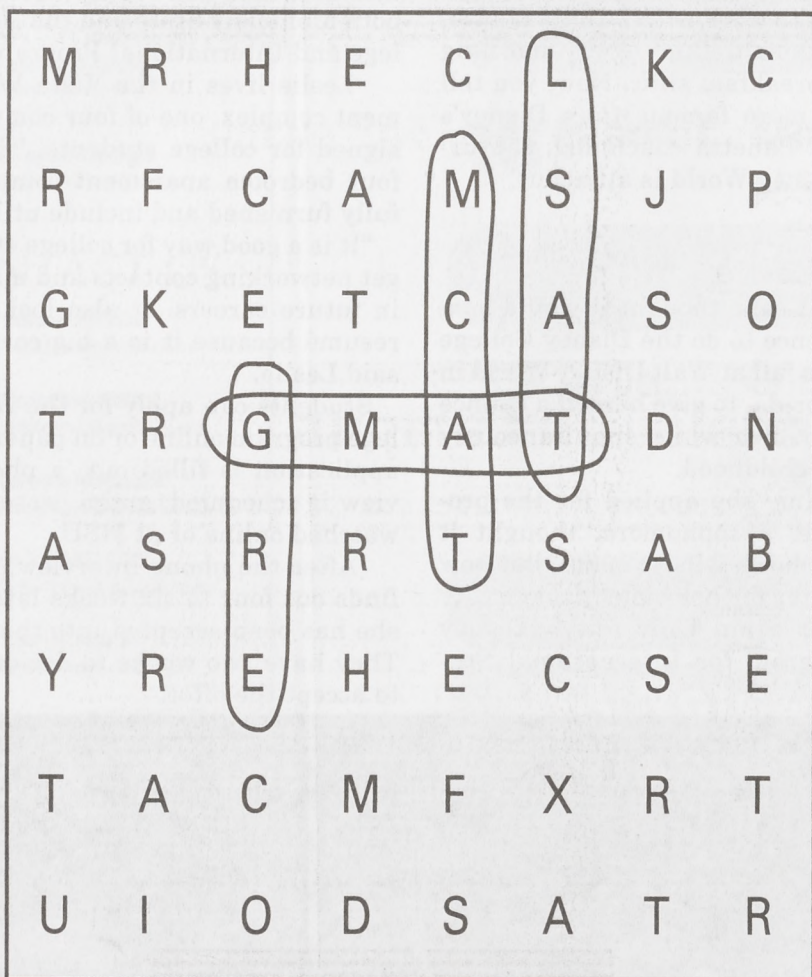


Matthew McCullough | The Montclarion

(Top) Students wait outside last Wednesday while police officers and the fire department investigate the reported fire.

(Bottom) The Little Falls Fire Department responded to the fire last Wednesday in University Hall.

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## Enrollment

Continued From Page 1

state students.

For the incoming freshmen, Residential Education expects to have at least

Road and The Village Apartments.

Students will still be housed at an off-campus hotel. Because it is MSU's last year of their contract with the La Quinta, the university is currently in the RFP process of finding a hotel to be used.

To accommodate for rising enrollment, ResEd is looking to possibly increase the number of students living in an off-campus hotel, having the new residence hall completed and is currently in the RFP/RFG process of having an outside company build a dormitory five miles from the center of campus for students.

"I decided to come to MSU because my sister goes here. I wanted to be close to home, and I got a scholarship. I wasn't expecting much, but I ended up loving it," said freshman chemistry major Maria Rella.

Linda Smith

Director of the University's Disabilities Act

3,800 beds available, including the 303 at the new dorm being built between Clove

## Write for News

Contact Kristie at  
MSUNews@Gmail.com





# Upgrades Expected for Buildings On Campus

## Improvement Plans Will Make Buildings More Handicap Accessible

**Bobby Melok**  
Editor-in-Chief

Handicapped students who have had trouble reaching certain parts of campus in the past may find Montclair State easier to navigate starting next semester. The university is planning several upgrades for the future, starting with automatic doors being installed in University Hall.

According to Greg Bressler, vice president of University Facilities, the installation will be complete by the end of January. The doors will be at the northeast end of University Hall, across from the Student Center Annex. Handicapped students will be able to open the doors by either pushing a button or by using a card provided by the university.

Similar doors will be installed next on

**"It is hard to estimate the number of students with disabilities at MSU because registration with the DRC is voluntary."**

**Linda Smith**  
Director of the University's Disabilities Act

the fourth floor of the Red Hawk Deck. There are also plans to install them at the second floor entrance of College Hall, following the renovation of the bridge outside the building. Bressler noted that these doors "will be the standard" on campus.

There is no deadline for the completion of this project currently.

Even without these doors, all buildings on campus are up to the standards set by the Americans with Disabilities Act, according to Bressler.

Linda Smith, director of the university's Disability Resource Center (DRC),

notes that while the campus is compliant, some buildings "pose challenges, for example, the heavy doors at College Hall, the Red Hawk Deck and University Hall."

Smith also said that some buildings on campus are "simply inaccessible, for example, the first floor classrooms in Life Hall and the classrooms in Bohn, as well as Gilbreth House, which houses CAPS."

"Over time, we'll renovate all the buildings," said Bressler. Any handicap add-ons would be part of a larger renovation, like what is happening with Finley Hall.

According to Smith, "With other older buildings, barriers must be removed unless it presents an undue financial hardship for the institution."

The DRC's goal is to help disabled students receive equal access to campus.

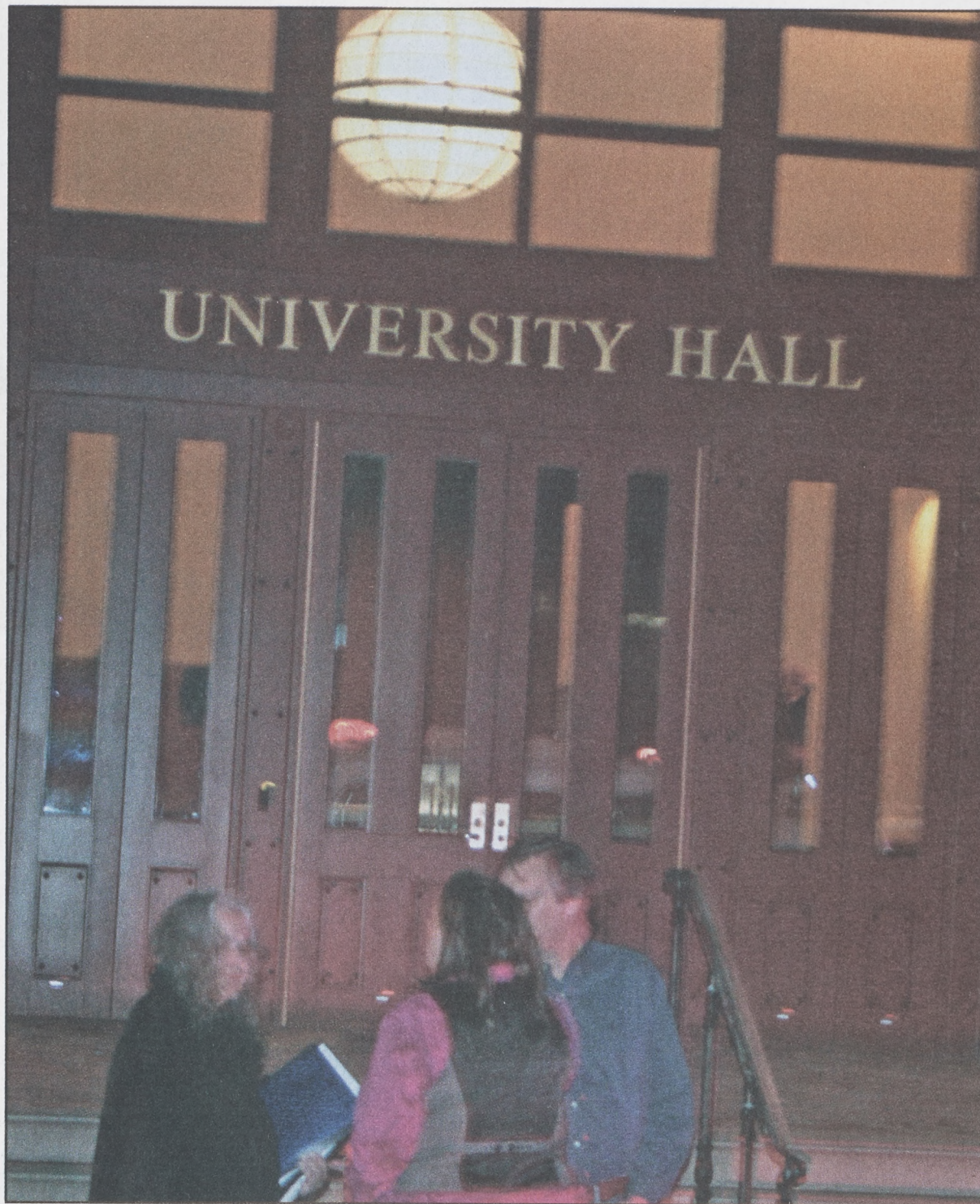
"What we do is check the schedule of every student with mobility issues before the semester begins, and we move any classes being held in inaccessible locations, and with assistance from the Registrar, move those classes to accessible locations," said Smith.

To receive these services, students must disclose their disability to the DRC.

"It is hard to estimate the number of students with disabilities at MSU because registration with the DRC is voluntary," said Smith. "Many students with disabilities do not need or desire accommodations and simply choose to negotiate the campus on their own, and this is their right."

Smith estimates that there are 750 students registered with the DRC. However, many have what she calls "invisible disabilities," such as learning disabilities. There are eight deaf students, two completely blind students and 25 with mobility issues, according to Smith.

The next major campus buildings to



Matthew McCullough | The Montclarion

The front doors of University Hall will be replaced with automatic doors to help students with disabilities.

open are the John J. Cali School of Music and the renovated Panzer Gym, both part of the larger promenade project. Bressler says that the lower portion of campus

will be made more accessible. The University Facilities website states that the entrance to Panzer will be upgraded to make it ADA compliant.

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## Universities Lose Internet Connection For Several Hours

Tyler Brady  
Staff Writer

The Montclair State University campus, along with many universities throughout the state, lost Internet connection for several hours on Thursday, Dec. 12.

"The Internet connection was out at Montclair State University as well as 44 of the 47 New Jersey colleges from 12:54 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., although Montclair was

provider for the university through N.J. Edge Net.

Many students were affected by this problem. Jimmy Nye, a senior at Montclair, said, "I was preparing to give a lecture for class that I have been working on all semester when I realized the Internet was down. I had videos to show for my presentation, but I could not access them."

Andrew Nerses, a junior at Montclair, said, "I was unable to communicate with my group concerning a presentation for class because of these issues with the Internet."

Students were informed of these problems through text messages on their school phones as well as an e-mail sent to their account.

The surprise felt by MSU administration concerning this outage is because of what they were told by Verizon about this Internet system.

Chapel said that "in signing on for service, there was suppose to be a field redundancy plan." This plan would make sure that if a single point failed, the Internet would not go down.

Chapel said that this outage is a "major concern," and that "we in technology are devastated by this."

Chapel added that this is the "worst outage ever, certainly in the eight years that I have been here."

This Internet problem will lead to N.J. Edge Net offering a dual-homed service.

This would mean that in addition to Verizon, customers have the option of also having any other carrier as a backup just in case the Verizon network goes out again.

**"I was unable to communicate with my group concerning a presentation for class because of these issues with the Internet."**

Andrew Nerses  
Junior

up again by 6:00 p.m.," according to Ed Chapel, an employee of the Office of Information Technology at Montclair State University.

While the Montclair Internet was still up and running to some extent and users could view the MSU website, it was impossible to branch out from the MSU domain.

Chapel said that Montclair is "not sure of the reason for this Internet outage," but added that this was a "failure of Verizon," who is currently the Internet

## Fueling Station Repairs Delay Shuttle Buses



Jake Del Mauro | The Montclarion

Shuttle buses were delayed last Thursday morning due to fueling station repairs.

Amanda Balbi  
Staff Writer

The morning of Thursday, Dec. 4, started off with a mass e-mail and text message alert to all Montclair Students. Shuttle bus services were delayed initially a half hour due to "fueling station repairs."

Dr. Timothy Carey, vice president of Facilities Services, said that the bus refueling station, located on campus, had malfunctioned. Therefore, the buses were

rerouted to Route 46 to refill their gas tanks. The campus was able to fix the unexpected problem easily, although it took longer than intended. The estimated time of repair completion was 7 a.m., although the buses weren't running on time until 9:20 a.m.

"Fortunately, the repairs were made quickly," Carey says.

Carey went on to say that the first few buses that were refueled were sent to the busiest pick-up sites first, such as the lot 28 stop. The delays were unexpected and shouldn't occur again.

## Yearbook

Continued From Page 1

having a completely new yearbook staff and having things in the wrong format and not entering data properly.

*La Campana* uses Adobe InDesign and Jostens Yearbook Plus-Ins. Using both creates some problems, Salameh explained. "We can't add pictures, for instance, the same way you would in a normal document," she said.

According to SGA President Ron Chicken, the 2007-'08 edition was c. \$102,000 that was appropriated by the SGA legislators. A yearbook club was not chartered by the SGA until spring 2008, where they were given a budget.

Chicken explained that in former years,

the SGA vice president put the yearbook together and had the money passed by the legislators.

"There is a lot of work to put together a yearbook. There should have been steps taken to put it out," Chicken said. "It is our centennial yearbook, and it is very unfortunate."

The yearbook is usually sent for publishing over the summer, Chicken explained, so it can be sent out to seniors in September.

"The SGA was notified of the significant technical difficulties, but it has been an extra semester now and has gone on a little bit too long," Chicken said.

The 2009 yearbook budget is \$113,400, said SGA Treasurer Michael Dengelegi.

The fall 2008 budget lines include: programming, publishing, food/drinks, publicity, office expense, telephone, com-

puter software and conference, totaling \$59,700.

The spring 2009 budget lines include

**"There is a lot of work to put together a yearbook. There should have been steps taken to put it out."**

Ron Chicken  
SGA President

the same as fall with an addition of a banquet line. The total is \$53,700.

"It is unfair to the students that graduated and still don't have their yearbooks, and to the SGA, who gives the organiza-

tion money," Dengelegi said. "[We] understand the technical difficulties, but six months later is too much."

Planning for the 2009 yearbook has already begun, said Salameh. "The title is popular, and the book's aesthetics will reflect pop art," she said.

There are currently about 20 members on the yearbook staff, including writers, editors and other contributors.

At yesterday's SGA meeting Dengelegi addressed the legislators about the current yearbook delays, problems and future prevention.

Dengelegi said that one possible to make sure this does not happen again is for the legislators to form a committee or look for another option "There is nothing we can do about [the 2008 yearbook] but we can change the future," he said.

# FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE – Fall 2008 DECEMBER 12-18

Friday – December 12  
For Classes Meeting on TF or WF at 0700am.....0700am-0900am  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on T or F at 0230pm.....0100pm-0300pm  
For Classes with First or only Meeting on T or F at 0400pm.....0315pm-0515pm

Monday – December 15  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on M or R at 0830am.....0800am-1000am  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on M or R at 1000am.....1015am-1215pm

For Classes with First or Only Meeting on M or R at 1130am.....0100pm-0300pm  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on M or R at 0100pm.....0315pm-0515pm

Tuesday – December 16  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on T or F at 0830am.....0800am-1000am  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on T or F at 1000am.....1015am-1215pm

For Classes with First or Only Meeting on T or F at 1130am.....0100pm-0300pm  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on T or F at 0100pm.....0315pm-0515pm

Wednesday – December 17  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on W at 0830am.....0800am-1000am  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on W at 1000am.....1015am-1215pm

For Classes with First or Only Meeting on W at 1130am.....0100pm-0300pm  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on W at 0100pm.....0315pm-0515pm

Thursday – December 18  
For Classes Meeting on MR or TR at 0700am.....0700am-0900am  
For Classes Meeting on MW at 0700am.....0915am-1115am

For Classes with First or Only Meeting on M or R at 0230pm.....0100pm-0300pm  
For Classes with First or Only Meeting on M or R at 0400pm.....0315pm-0515pm

### Examination Notes:

1. "First or Only Meeting" refers to the weekly meeting sequence. For example, "First" = MW, MR, TR, TF, WF. This does not correspond in any way to the first time the course met this semester.
2. All examinations are to be held in the regularly assigned classroom. In courses where more than one room is involved, the location of the exam will be the same as the first room of a series (e.g., a course meeting WF in different rooms will have the exam in the W room).
3. Courses which have a start time other than those listed above should follow the exam schedule for the preceding class start time (e.g. a course beginning at 9:30am will follow the exam period for courses with a first or only meeting at 8:30am; a course beginning at 12:00pm will follow the exam period for courses with a first or only meeting at 11:30am). Faculty involved in teaching courses on a "To Be Arranged" basis and who require an exam room are asked to make arrangements for a specific time and room.
4. Students with a time conflict in their exam schedule should immediately notify each faculty member involved and make arrangements to reschedule one of the exams.

Friday – December 12  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Friday at 0530pm.....0530pm-0730pm  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Friday at 0830pm .....0815pm-1015pm

Saturday – December 13  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Saturday at 0800am.....0800am-1000am  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Saturday at 1100am.....1100am-0100pm  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Saturday at 0200pm.....0200pm-0400pm

Sunday – December 14  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Sunday at 0800am.....0800am-1000am  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Sunday at 1100am.....1100am-0100pm  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Sunday at 0200pm.....0200pm-0400pm

Monday – December 15  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Monday at 0530pm.....0530pm-0730pm  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Monday at 0815pm.....0815pm-1015pm

Tuesday – December 16  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Tuesday at 0530pm.....0530pm-0730pm  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Tuesday at 0815pm.....0815pm-1015pm

Wednesday – December 17  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Wednesday at 0530pm.....0530pm-0730pm  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Wednesday at 0815pm.....0815pm-1015pm

Thursday – December 18  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Thursday at 0530pm.....0530pm-0730pm  
For Classes with first or only Meeting on Thursday at 0815pm.....0815pm-1015pm

0700pm Courses  
For classes with first or only meeting M, T, W or R at 0700pm.....0745pm-945pm  
On regularly scheduled meeting day



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# SGA

Continued From Page 1

SGA president-pro-tempore and a member of the SGA for the past two years. She was not a part of the SGA this semester in order to concentrate on her studies to graduate with highest honors, she said at the meeting.

"I used to be a math major, and I am savvy with numbers," Tomaszewski said, addressing the legislators. "I enjoy working with the financial aspects and don't think I will have a problem taking on the role."

The outcome of a secret ballot vote was 15-8 and failed without receiving two-thirds majority.

This result caused major concern from the SGA executive board, attorney general and faculty advisors.

After the appointment did not pass, there was nearly two hours of debate and three motions to adjourn from the meeting.

The appointment did not pass because of one vote, Dengelegi said. In order to overturn the decision, someone who voted in the negative would have to come forward and overturn their vote.

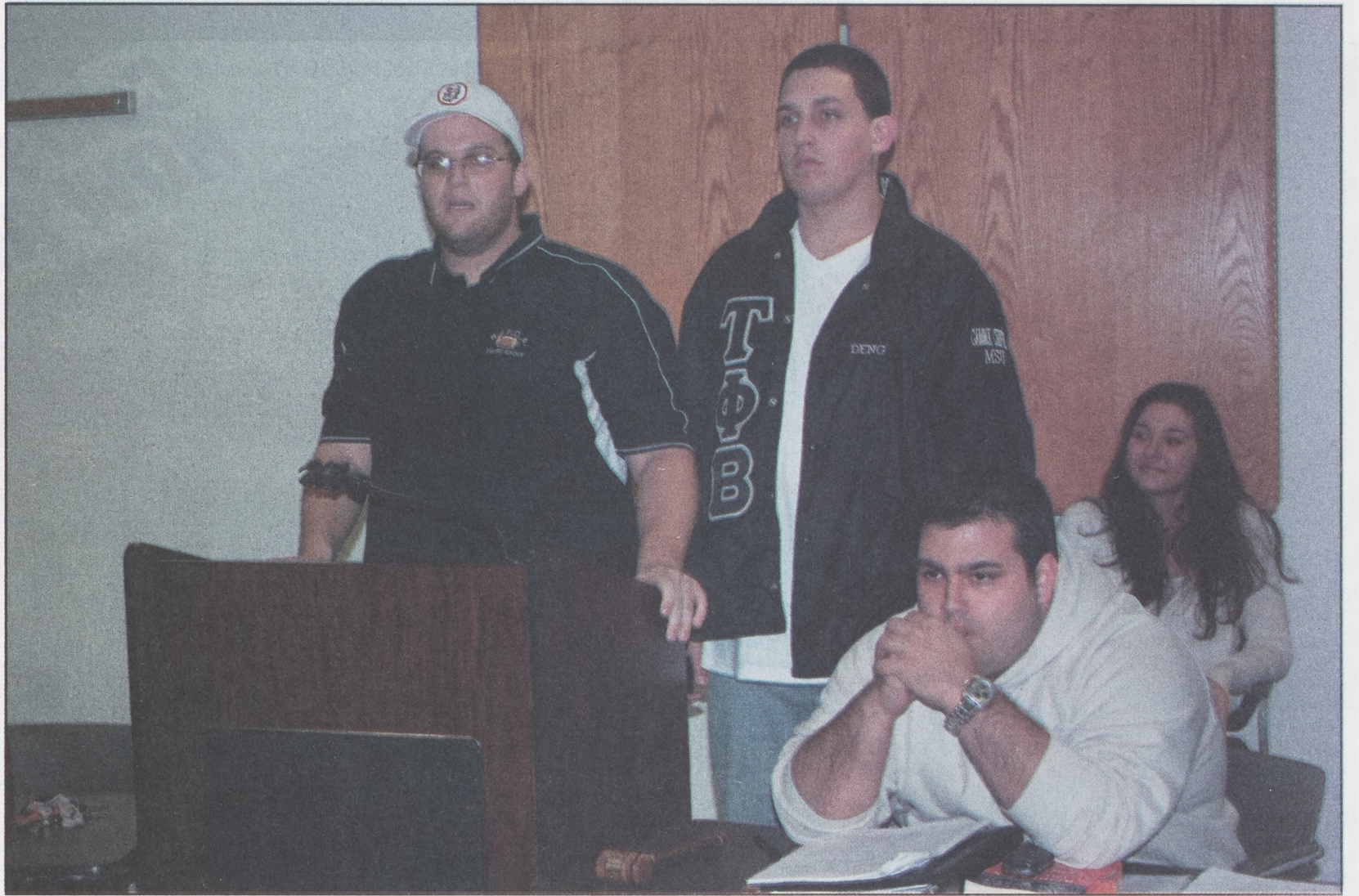
Chicken and Vice President Bryan Fucetola were upset that there were eight members of the legislature who did not speak up during debate and discussion.

"It is a shame legislators are not fulfilling the duties of their office," Chicken said.

The opinions of the executive board were coming off the wrong way to the legislators. Legislator Laura Nappo brought up during conversation that she does not believe it is ethical or right to harass the legislators to vote one way or the other.

Fatima DeCarvalho, director of the Center for Student Involvement, stated during the meeting that it is going to look bad in front of the board of trustees, and they have the power to take SGA funds away. She continued, saying that, a couple of years ago, the SGA was very close to losing funding when there was no book-keeper.

"I think the legislators made a major mistake and made a decision on what they wanted and what was not best for the students," Dengelegi said. "I am going to do whatever I can to make sure there is a treasurer for the spring semester."



Kristie Cattafi | The Montclarion



Kristie Cattafi | The Montclarion

(Top) Attorney General Joe Specchio and SGA Treasurer Michael Dengelegi talked to SGA legislators about the possibility of not having a treasurer for the spring semester.

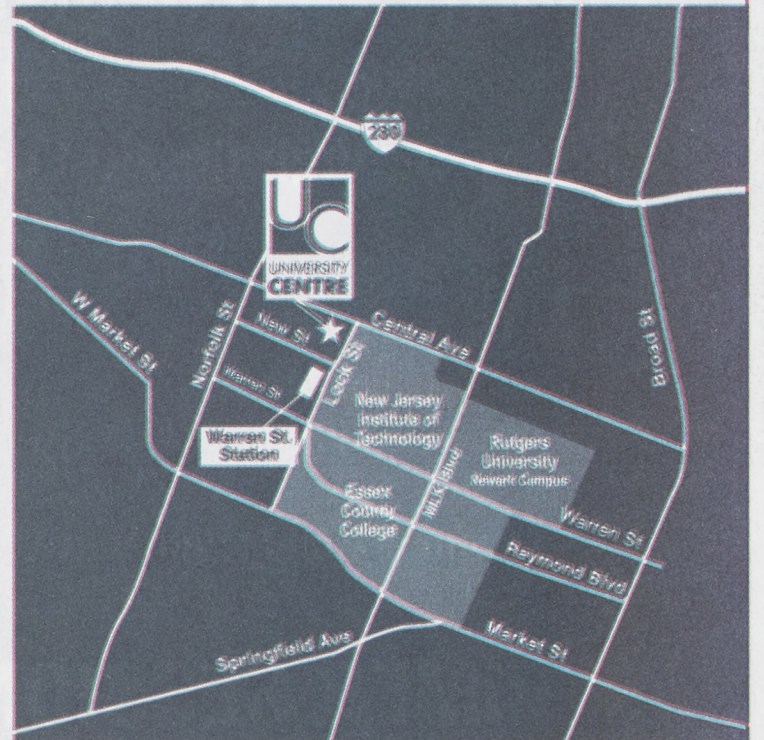
(Left) Attorney General Joe Specchio collects the secret ballots for the new treasurer appointment.

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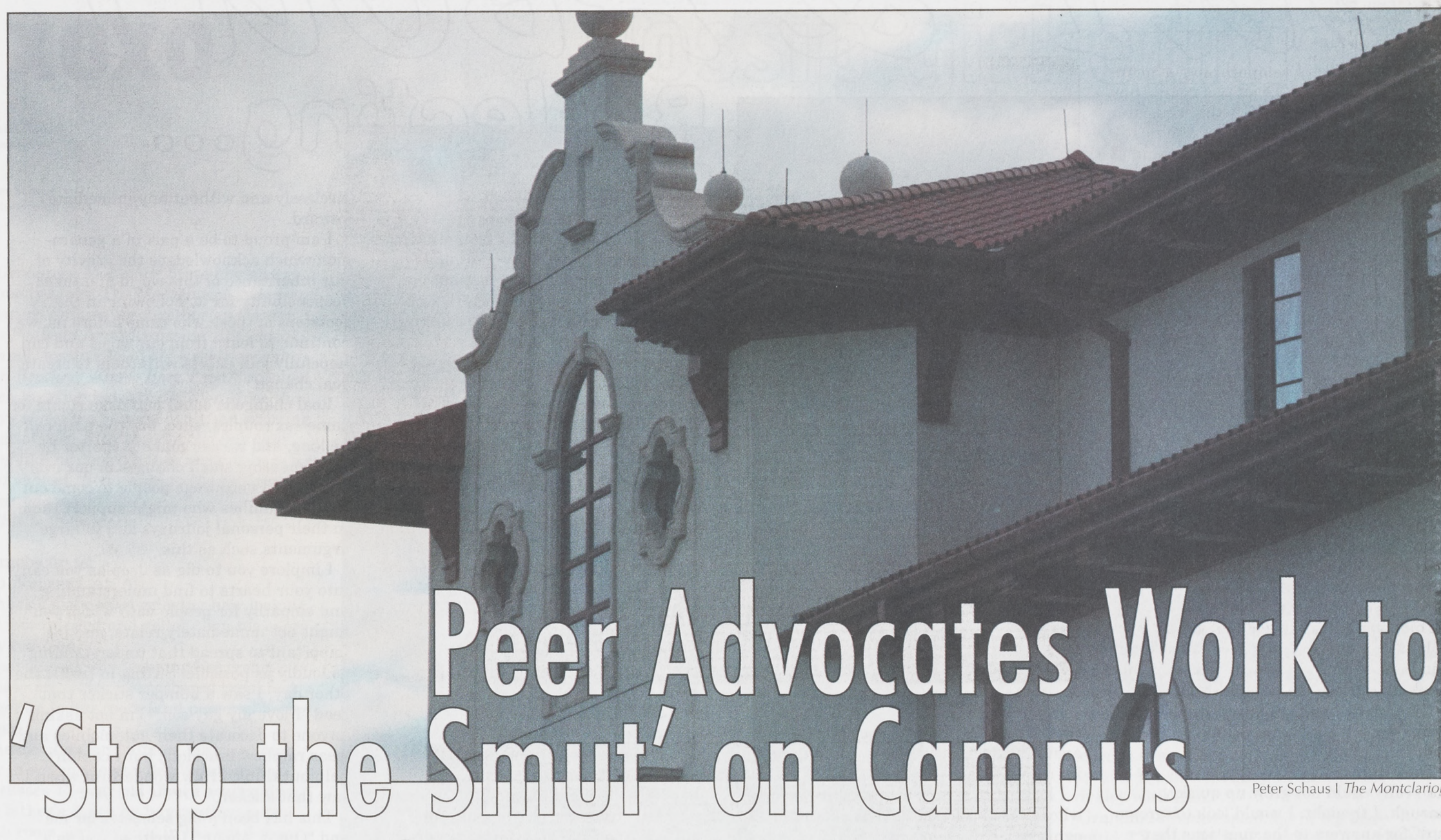
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Peter Schaus | The Montclarion

Allyson Schechner-Kanofsky  
Assistant Production Editor

How many times have you gone to your car to find advertisements of half-naked women (if they even have clothes on), promoting the latest party in town?

Postcards advertising local parties can be found all over Montclair State University's campus. They not only objectify women, but also endorse drinking, and many of them are backed by SGA organizations. It is about time that someone takes a stand against these obscene advertisements.

That is exactly what the Peer Advocates at Health Promotion at the Drop In Center have been doing. The Peer Advocate program is a group of student

volunteers who are trained to provide peer education, referral and health advocacy services to other students. One of the many ways Peer Advocates create change on campus is through their SMUT Collection contest.

Peer Advocates are collecting all of the vulgar postcards they find on campus. Most of the postcards collected are from local clubs and bars. Each of the 30 advocates can participate in the contest by collecting the postcards. The person with the most postcards at the end of the month will win a prize.

Last month's winner Amanda Huenke collected a total of 310 postcards. As a group, the Peer Advocates have collected a grand total of 1,136 postcards. Advocates have been feeling passion-

ate about this issue since even before it became a contest. One Advocate expressed their feelings by saying, "I think it is an embarrassment to the university to have all these flyers around, exposing so many negative images."

This activity is much more than a contest. Participants have also sent out letters to the bars and clubs who have advertised on our campus. The letters explained how such advertisements give the student community a misconstrued idea about substance use and abuse, making it seem like an acceptable activity.

The students also voiced their concern about how the advertisements exploit women. Unlike student organizations, bars and clubs do not have the campus' permission to hand out, post and solicit.

While understanding that the success of some of these establishments relies upon patrons from this campus, advocates inform businesses that they find their advertisements undesirable and offensive, and they counteract much of their hard work throughout the school year.

The SMUT Collection at Health Promotion at the Drop In Center represents a group of committed students who want to combat high-risk drinking habits and drug use, as well as sexism.

In addition, the collection also helps the environment by reducing the amount of litter on the ground. Hopefully, the initiatives of the Peer Advocates will encourage other students to take a stand against the smutty advertisements found on our campus.

**Aries (March 21 – April 19)**

This week is a good time to slow down and enjoy the scenery of your life. Check out the sights and sounds of the season and get wrapped up in the gentle embrace of a gingerbread latte.

**Taurus (April 20 – May 20)**

Things are moving at a fast pace in your life right now, but that's a good thing. You can get the tedious and annoying things out of the way as you steam toward holiday fun.

**Gemini (May 21 – June 21)**

Now is a good time to think about your future. It might be an even better time to tell someone else your plans so you can get some advice. But remember, you don't have to take it.

**Cancer (June 22 – July 22)**

You will fight, you will charm and you will win the hearts of everyone around you. In other words, you're about to become everyone's sweetheart. Don't ruin it by letting everyone know what a jerk you are.

**Leo (July 23 – August 22)**

You are fluid this week, happily going from one project to the next. It might be because you are filled with joy, or because you know if you stop to think about finals, you will cry.

**Virgo (August 23 – Sept. 22)**

You better watch your back this week because things are about to turn as hazy as a television crime drama, and it's up to you to figure out the puzzle before it's too

late!

**Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)**

Things are looking up. You should be pleased. If not, then you're dumb, so go ahead and be pleased! It's only cocky if it's not true.

**Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)**

You feel the need to play hero this week, so go for it. You're hero material, after all; you should let your cape wave in the breeze once in a while. Just be careful of kryptonite.

**Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)**

You are feeling romantic this week, but don't let it take over. You've got a lot of other things to worry about besides your sex drive, so that should be on the back burner.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)**

You are what you are, and that can only change if you really want it to. But most of the time you like the way you are, so why change? There are people who like the way you are.

**Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)**

You're looking for excitement in your week, and might feel a little bored when nothing extraordinary comes in the near future, but keep your spirits bright.

**Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20)**

People are looking for more from you, and you can go above and beyond if you keep your eyes open and away from distractions, especially Christmas lights. Even if they are super pretty. --Jessica Lozak



# OUT & ABOUT

## Reflecting...



courtesy of deviantArt

Vince Ricco  
Assistant Feature Editor

I really could not grow up quickly enough, I thought. I would look to “grown-ups” for answers to the questions that life and society typically present — questions of fairness and propriety, etc. — and naively believe that in one grand transitional stride, somewhere on the footpath between childhood and adulthood, I too would inherit this wellspring of answers and suddenly just “get it.” I have not yet been fortunate enough to find all the answers, though, and I’m confident that I will not.

But while the footpath continues, and I continue to search and grow, I can’t help but notice passersby and see that my colleagues and fellow travelers share in my empty-handedness, that they too have

been unable to find the objectively true answers which I’ve recently come to realize do not exist.

I look more closely at those “grown-ups” whose wisdom I once sought and now recognize it not as some gift of adulthood but rather just the fruition of more time spent here in this world, and of trial and error.

There’s nothing at all novel about this understanding. I suppose I’m just observing my disillusionment and perhaps recognizing that, too, as part of the growing process — the equivalent of charting my height with pencil notches against the garage wall — but I am so compelled to share with you how disenchanting this epiphany has been, and yet how wonderfully empowering, while at the same time frightening as all hell.

This realization for me elicited the same reaction as when I saw Sarah Palin on

a presidential election ballot, which was simply: “Wait! Who’s in charge here?” And how couldn’t I be scared by his notion that we are all just children, gradually progressing older, clumsily making up the order of things? I take comfort, though, in knowing that as I step into adulthood, while the answers for freedom and equality and other social and human issues are not just given to us as gifts, through our common humanity, and with thanks to those reputed sages — parents, teachers, older friends — understanding is within our reach.

My recent focus has been on the grass-roots, or “grassweb,” movement for equality, entailing Internet-initiated discussion forums and organization of rallies as a response to recent marriage controversy throughout the country, often but not always having to do with California’s Proposition 8.

Outside the realm of gay rights, “going green” and eco-friendliness has taken our culture by storm, as have efforts to help save Darfur, among other humanitarian and activist efforts exercised on a daily basis even here on campus, such as last week’s AIDS Awareness events.

Recently the main players in this show have been student activists and young adults, taking their rightful roles in the democratic process, voting, rallying and very actively asserting their hunger for a world which hurts and discriminates against as few and helps as many people as possible.

As with my little epiphany, it would appear that in some way or another, we’re all experiencing a few growing pains. I’ve also recently discovered how easy it is to become discouraged. I think it’s important to recognize that however slowly, small differences are being made every moment: every moment that we pass on a small piece of information, donate our time or money, and encourage those who do so

tirelessly and without any immediate reward.

I am proud to be a part of a generation which acknowledges the gravity of our inheritance of this world and takes responsibility for it. Following in the footsteps of those who came before us, we continue to learn from our sages and can hopefully join efforts with them to create real change.

Real change is equal marriage rights for same-sex couples, sure, but the path can be long, and we can make it shorter by implementing small changes in our every day lives. I encourage people to come out to their families who might support them in their personal journeys and in large arguments such as this.

I implore you to dig as deep as you can into your hearts to find understanding and empathy for people with whom you might not immediately relate, and it’s important to spread that understanding as loudly as possible. Sitting in traffic the other day, I saw a bumper sticker that read “I love my gay son.” I’m not asking anyone to decorate their automobiles and wear rainbow bracelets, but I couldn’t help but think, “How wonderful,” when I saw that sticker.

This has been a big semester for me and “Out & About.” I write to you as a young man just clearing his teens. I can humbly offer only the small bits of wisdom that I’ve collected, concentrated the best that I can to give you something (hopefully) worth reading. If I’ve changed your point of view, or at least made you sit and reflect for a moment, I’ve done my job, and I can’t wait to continue it next semester. I’ve gotten a lot of growth from this experience, and I’d like to thank everyone who has contacted me with your support and your criticism; I save every letter. Anyone else with feedback for me or “Out & About” can e-mail [queercolumn@gmail.com](mailto:queercolumn@gmail.com).



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# thumbs up/thumbs down: XOXO gossip girl edition

Kristie Cattafi  
News Editor

Peter Schaus  
Feature Editor

Greetings, Montclair State-ers: every Monday night, The Montclarion News and Feature Editors get together and watch the Peabody Award-winning BBC docu-drama Gossip Girl. This week's episode "Oh Brother, Where Bart Thou?" reached such dizzying heights not seen since the days of Serena van der Woodsen snorting lines of coke with Harriet the Spy that they had no choice but to recap it in print and subject themselves to the criticism of their peers.

This is their story:

## Thumbs up to:

- No. Vanessa. At. All.
- Chuck's disheveled grieving hair looking far more coiffed and gelled than his everyday comb back.
- Blair bulimically bringing her cream cheese and salmon-smothered breakfast bagel up to her room (and personal bathroom).
- The cavalier (and almost fawning) manner in which the van der Woodsen clan discusses 17-year-old Chuck's mourning his father's death by having threeways with room service girls in his hotel room.
- Blair explaining to drunk Chuck, in great detail, how to make himself throw up. We love her out-and-proud attitude regarding her eating disorder. Good for you, B. Acceptance is the first step toward recovery.
- Eric proving he's a true van der Woodsen by walking into his stepfather's funeral and promptly asking if his ex-boyfriend has shown up yet. And using the repass dinner as an opportunity to "sort things out."
- Jenny's David-Bowie-in-Labyrinth hair helmet finally growing out.



courtesy of The CW

Grieving Chuck (Ed Westwick) tells Dan (Penn Badgley) to "make like a tree and get the hell out" of his father's funeral, while Nate (Chace Crawford), Blair (Leighton Meester) and Blair's headband look on in concern in last week's episode of Gossip Girl.

- Chuck drunkenly running up to Dan at the funeral, grabbing him by the collar and telling him to get the eff out. Because even if Chuck wasn't drunk, and it wasn't his father's funeral, it is perfectly acceptable (and encouraged!) to run up to Dan at any moment, grab his collar and tell him to get the eff out of wherever he is.

- Blair bending down to hug Mr. Hall, er, Cyrus Rose.
- Dorota as a bridesmaid. We eagerly await her Verizon cell phone spin-off series.
- Blair's line: "Only a masochist could love such a narcissist."
- The big revelation regarding Lily's stint in a sanitarium. "Was it a boy or a girl?"

is totally this season's "I killed someone."

-No new episodes until Jan. 5. There's only so much Serena/Georgina slash fan fiction that can keep us occupied until then!

-Blair finally telling Chuck those three little words.

## Thumbs down to

- Eleanor Waldorf, one of the leading fictional designers in the world, allowing a 16-year-old high school dropout from Brooklyn to design her wedding blazer.
- Serena wearing a negligee to breakfast with her grandmother. And a single-strapped mini dress to her stepfather's funeral.
- Rufus playing his band's one-hit wonder on the guitar. You know he'd be working on a new track for the Starbucks holiday sampler CD.
- Aaron, when Serena turned down his offer of a holiday trip to Buenos Aires by saying her "brother is lonely, [her] mother is losing it and [her stepbrother] Chuck has publicly disowned [them]," and he answered "You're sure your family is why you don't want to leave, or is there someone else?" Because Aaron is so much That Guy that he would ignore perfectly valid reasons to stay in town and immediately assume it has something to do with his rivalry with Dan.
- Grandma Rhodes speaking in big dramatic, TV-ad-copy proclamations like "The closing of this chapter leads to the opening of another," and somehow allowing her acting to seem amateurish in comparison to her 23-year-old former swimsuit model co-stars.
- The possibility of a Serena-and-Dan half-sibling running around France. Because, aside from the obvious ick factor, that child's self-regard must reach Oprah-like levels.
- Our mom walking into our bedroom as Blair told Chuck those three little words and seeing a single tear drip down our cheek.

## Cooking With Nelson!

## Holiday Edition!!

First off, I want to wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all my paisanos out there. Now, for Christmas I am going to give you a recipe for a very special Italian holiday treat: rice balls.

Here are the ingredients:

- 1 lb. white rice
- 4 eggs
- 1/2 c. grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 lb. Mozzarella cheese, cut in 16 cubes
- 1 1/2 c. Italian bread crumbs
- Olive oil

First, cook all the rice until it sticks together just enough. After the rice cools, mix the rice, the four egg yolks and the grated parmesan cheese into a large bowl. Make this mixture into any number of balls you see fit for the occasion. At this time, you will insert a piece of cubed mozzarella inside each rice ball. Dip each of the rice balls in beaten egg whites. Cover the rice balls in bread crumbs and drizzle them with olive oil. Then fry in a frying pan until golden brown.

Well, there you have it. Now when you're enjoying your home-made rice balls at all the Christmas parties you are going to, you can thank "Cooking with Nelson!"

Have a great holiday break!

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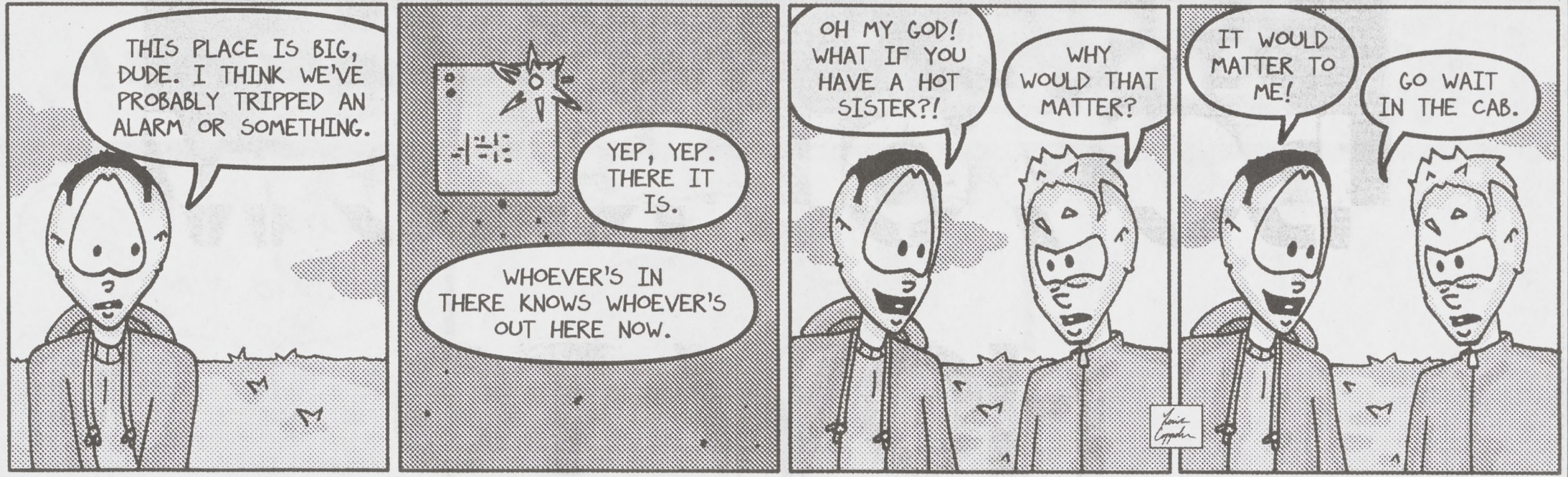
**BETA TESTERS ALSO NEEDED**





## DREAM NATION

by LOUIS COPPOLA

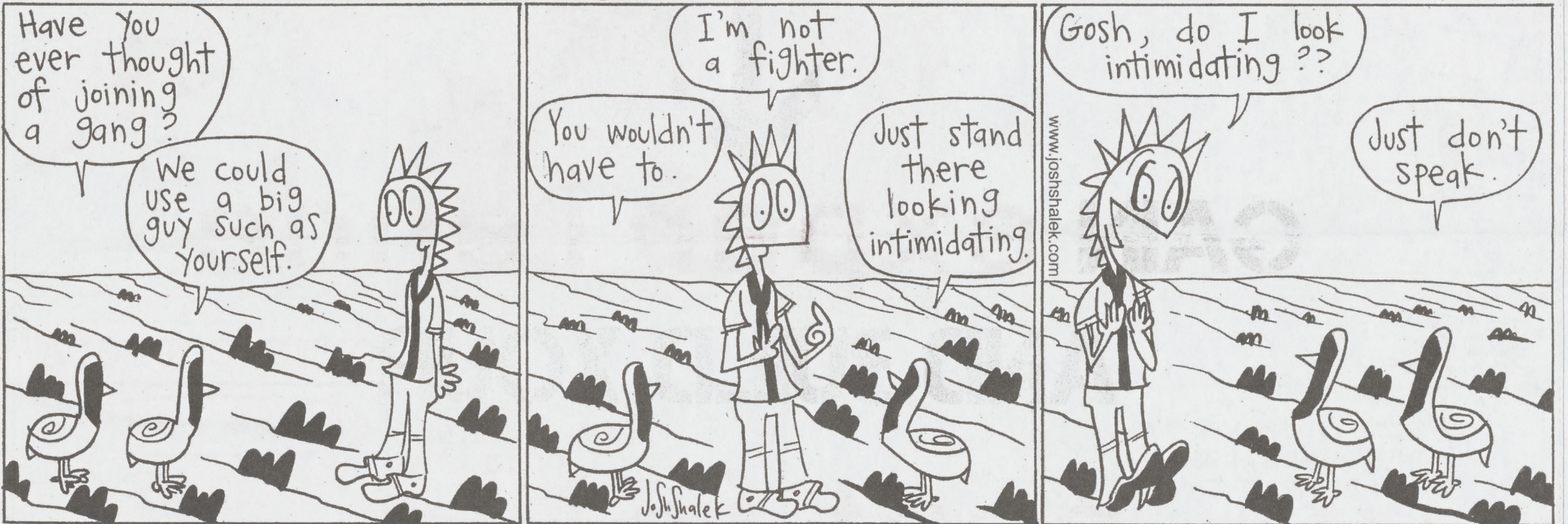


## PAUL

BY BILLY O'KEEFE MRBILLY.COM/PAUL

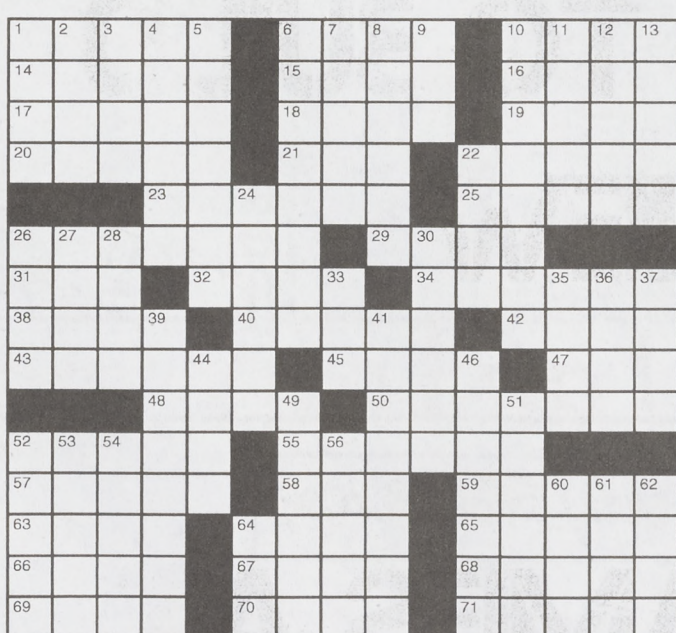


## Welcome to Falling Rock National Park by Kid Shay



## Crossword

- ACROSS
- Trains to box
  - Latin 101 verb
  - Revolved
  - Want too much
  - Within range
  - Ditty
  - Vibrant
  - Sup in style
  - Circle components
  - Flick
  - Washington bill
  - Silvery fish
  - Steeple toppers
  - Fencers' foils
  - Starts a new lawn
  - Forest unit
  - Put on the feed bag
  - Instrument of title
  - Carnegie or Mellon
  - Ella's forte
  - Proficient
  - New Italian bread
  - Exhilaration
  - New Jersey team
  - Knight's address
  - Dollar value
  - Cut
  - Selects
  - Meaning
  - White heron
  - "The Bells" poet
  - Hang loosely
  - Landed
  - Agitate
  - Stand in a studio
  - Show up
  - Sit for an artist
  - Religious practices
  - Worked the land
  - Mimicked
  - Twin Falls river



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12/11/08

### Solutions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52
53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65
66	67	68	69	70	71							

- DOWN
- Rip off
  - Water sport
  - Tel \_\_\_ Jaffa, Israel
  - Make extensive changes
  - Soaked
  - Countersigned
  - River through Paris
  - Most rational
  - Afore
  - Run wild en masse
  - Blender selection
  - Male relative
  - Brooding places
  - Observed
  - Paragons
  - Remainder
  - Per pop
  - Have the lead role
  - Noisemaker
  - Lair
  - Hurry it up
  - Toledo's lake
  - Unit of a language
  - Cited for a moving violation
  - Harassed
  - \_\_\_ and found
  - Colonel of KFC
  - First-rate
  - Overtax
  - Dilly
  - Ice residence
  - Kind of wave or scene
  - Cacophony
  - Movie dog
  - Sneak a quick look
  - Do it or \_\_\_!
  - Health resort

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12/11



"Call 9-1-1!"



# HAPPYLAND! by LOU CUNNINGHAM!



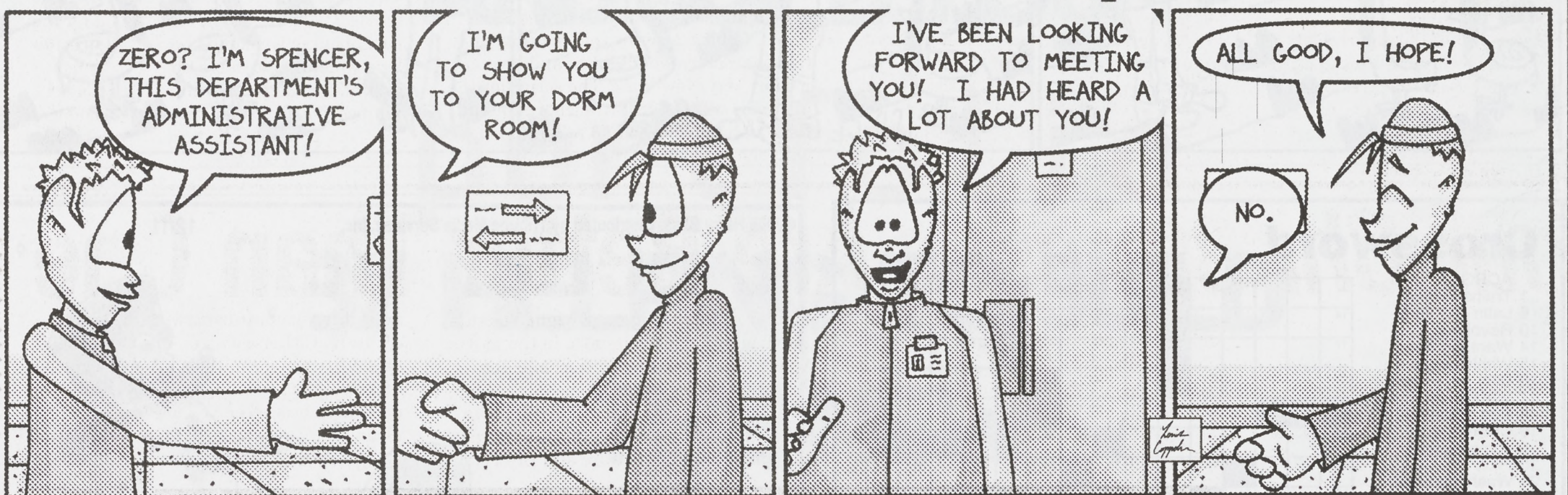
## Brothers Watt

by William Wilson



## ZERO

by LOUIS COPPOLA





# Orchestration of MSU Musical Talent

Jacek Blaskiewicz  
Staff Writer

Maestro Paul Hostetter has picked up a new habit. It has nothing to do with his musicality or his baton technique, but with the way he enters the stage. Mr. Hostetter now likes to enter with a little running start, as if shoved onto the stage by an impatient stagehand.

Friday evening's concert featured the Montclair State University Orchestra in Dmitri Kabalevsky's "Overture" from the opera *Colas Breugnon*, the World Premiere of David Bixler's *Concerto for Alto Saxophone* and Piotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's *Symphony n. 4 in F minor*. Before the commencement of the program, Maestro Hostetter motioned the audience to stand and conducted a warm rendition of the *Star-Spangled Banner*.

The Kabalevsky piece was guest conducted by Dr. Mary Ann Craig. Dr. Craig is a professor of conducting, brass and applied euphonium at the Cali School of Music. She is also the former director of bands. Here, she made her long anticipated debut with the MSU Orchestra, her first conducting appearance in a few years at Montclair. Craig showed no signs of rust as she led the orchestra through the colorful, rhythmic score. The orchestra shared her exuberance and drive, delivering a fresh, exciting rendition of the work. The performance was well received by the audience.



courtesy of Mike Peters

The MSU Orchestra performed a repertoire of pieces last Friday, including a world premiere of David Bixler's *Concerto for Alto Saxophone* and Dmitri Kabalevsky's "Overture" from *Colas Breugnon*.

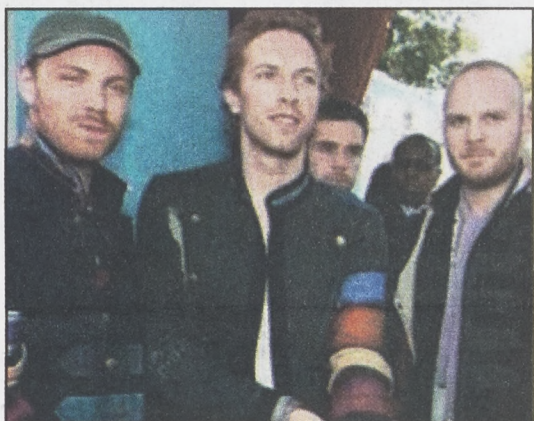
Continued on Page 18

## This Week in Entertainment:



courtesy of WireImage.com

Fran Drescher, known best for her starring role on the sitcom *The Nanny*, has stated that she wishes to run for the U.S. Senate for the state of New York in 2010. Drescher, a cancer survivor, was recently named a public diplomacy envoy for women's health issues and has begun tours of duty to several countries overseas.



courtesy of Mario Anzuoni

Virtuoso guitarist Joe Satriani has accused British rock band Coldplay of stealing an instrumental that he had written for use in their song "Viva La Vida." The band denies any such allegations, but Satriani is seeking a jury trial where he will be seeking damages and royalties from the band.



courtesy of DC Comics

ABC has commissioned a pilot episode to be made out of Bill Willingham's DC comic, *Fables*, a series that sets the fairy tale characters we all know and love in modern day New York. The script for the pilot was written by Stu Zicherman and Raven Metzner, who had fallen in love with the series from the beginning.



courtesy of WireImage.com

Catherine Hardwicke, director of the new movie *Twilight*, set the new record for biggest opening weekend of a movie directed by a woman, but that's not keeping her around for the sequel. Hardwicke has jumped the ship and wishes everyone who is sticking around the best of luck on the next installment.

## Four Christmases Are Better Than One

Jackie Zygadlo  
Assistant News Writer

*Four Christmases*, starring Vince Vaughn and Reese Witherspoon, is a Christmas comedy about a very private couple who spent three years going away on vacation and doing acts of good will for the holidays in order to get away from their families, until they are forced to spend one Christmas with all four of their families.

In what proves to be a very educational day, Brad (Vaughn) and Kate (Witherspoon) learn that, though they lived

Brad and Kate do get to know each other and learn the importance of family in what proves to be a very revelation-filled weekend. This wouldn't be a Vince Vaughn Christmas movie without an over-the-top hilarious nativity scene.

As a bonus for all you country fans, two

popular country singers, Dwight Yoakam and Tim McGraw, were also in the movie. Acting legends Bobby DuVall and Jon Voight were also co-stars.

After watching this movie, you leave either thankful your family isn't as crazy and embarrassing as Kate and Brad's,

or, if it is, sympathizing with them immensely. Either way, you leave the theater a little more in the Christmas spirit, because isn't spending time with family, no matter how often you see them or how insane they may be, what Christmas is all about? ★★★★★

"This wouldn't be a Vince Vaughn Christmas movie without an over-the-top hilarious nativity scene."

together, there was a lot they didn't know about each other, like their first names and childhoods.

By spending time with their families (which, remember, you can't spell without "lies"), they are reminded of all the reasons they don't spend the holidays with their divorced parents and dysfunctional siblings, while simultaneously being reminded of all the reasons why they should be spending time with them and all the memories they have missed out on.



courtesy of New Line Cinema

Kate (Reese Witherspoon) and Brad (Vince Vaughn), a couple who tries to avoid their crazy families during the holidays, put on a hilarious version of the nativity scene in the new movie *Four Christmases*.

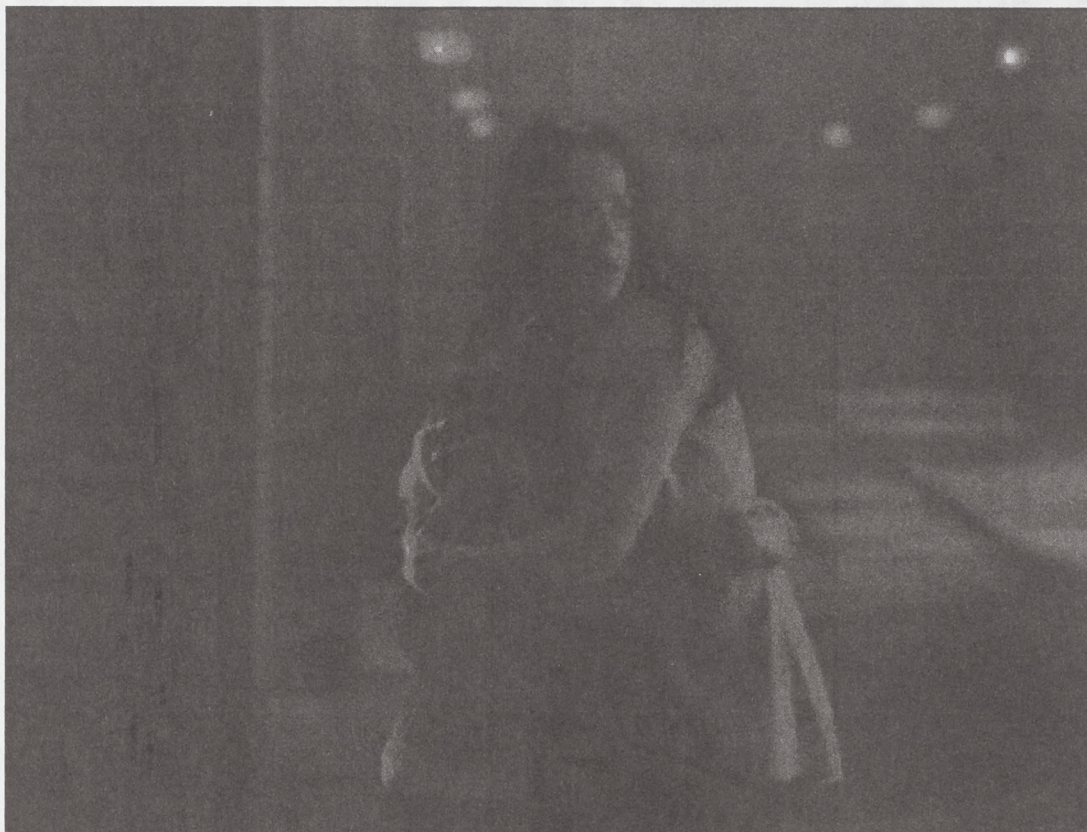


# Punishing Audiences This Holiday Season

Jason Serafino  
Staff Writer

After three different movies, three different actors and more than 100 dead bodies left behind, one would think that Hollywood might have a good handle on what to do with a *Punisher* movie. But while the newest addition to the film library, titled *Punisher: War Zone*, directed by Lexi Alexander, is better than the two previous attempts, it still fails to fully capture the character in a respectable light.

The star of HBO's *Rome*, Ray Stevenson, is the star of this third stab at the *Punisher* film series. Stevenson resembles the Punisher from the comics better than any other actor who has portrayed him. Stevenson's Punisher is a man of few words and even fewer emotional expressions, and that is part of the beauty of the character. Stevenson's emotionally distant yet haunted performance garners enough sympathy to make the Punisher a believable person. While soft-spoken and introspective, this new Punisher does deal out a lot of violence and looks pissed while doing it. Apparently living in the sewer like a cave troll is enough to ruffle any-



Angela Donatelli (Julie Benz) holds her daughter, Grace (Stephanie Janusauskas), as they try to flee from the vengeful Jigsaw in *Punisher: War Zone*.

courtesy of Lionsgate

body's feathers.

While Stevenson delivers a great performance as the Punisher, almost every other actor in the film is laughable at best. Dominic West's portrayal of the villain, Jigsaw, makes the '60s *Batman* television show look like an off-Broadway production of *Hamlet*. The other roles are filled with mediocre television actors who seem to be taking acting lessons in between takes. None of the side characters in the movie have any real impact on the overall story, and just seem lost in the shuffle. The only other tolerable actors are *Seinfeld* veteran Wayne Knight, playing the Punisher's gun aficionado, Micro-Chip, and Dash Mihok playing the bumbling detective, Martin Soap.

There is one aspect of this film that is either going to make your mouth salivate or your eyes water depending on your personality, and that is the gore factor. *Punisher: War Zone* is the most violent comic book movie ever to grace the big screen. Chair legs get kicked through skulls, heads get punched and re-punched, and necks get sliced and diced like loaves

Continued on Page 18

## Xbox 360 Dashboard Gets a Faceliff

Bobby Melok  
Editor-In-Chief

A few weeks ago, Xbox 360 owners who have their systems connected to the Internet woke up to a whole new experience, or what Microsoft is calling the "New Xbox Experience (NXE)."

The NXE is an upgrade to the user interface of the system, which players interact with when they use the system with no game disc in the drive. 360 players used to navigate through a "dashboard" interface, which had several "blades," for the system settings, friends list, games and marketplace sections. They were arranged in a simple, left-to-right manner.

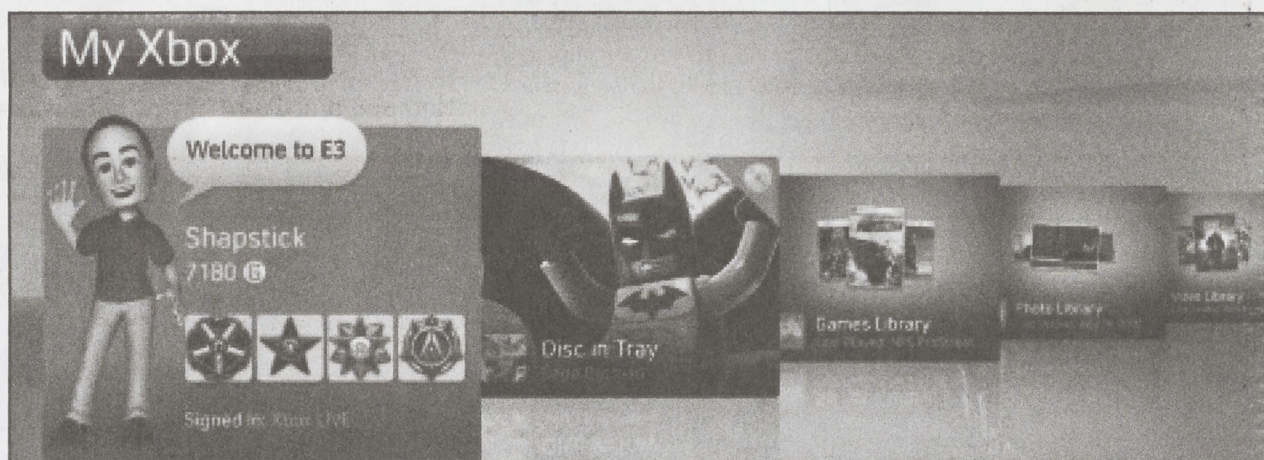
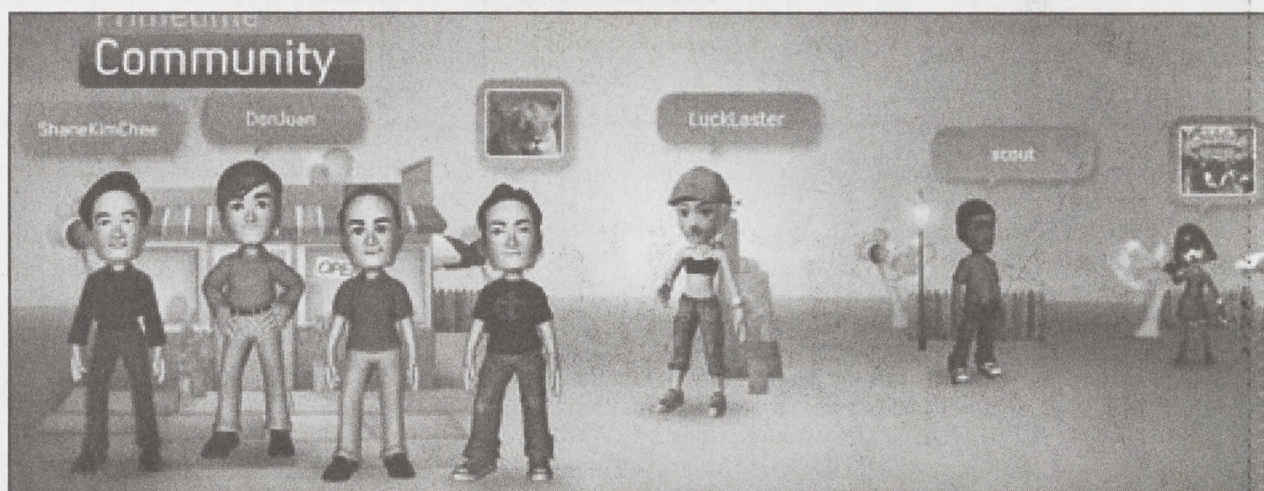
The NXE's version of the dashboard is somewhat similar, changing from the

horizontal blades to a vertical list, navigated using the up and down buttons. Each

section of the list has several sub-menus, which players go between with the left and right buttons.

While the NXE's dashboard looks much more impressive than its predecessor, it is lacking in ease

"The biggest change that came with the NXE was the addition of avatars. Eerily similar to Nintendo Wii's Miis, avatars allow players to create cartoony characters to represent themselves on friend lists and games like *Uno* and *A Kingdom for Keflings*."



courtesy of Microsoft

Continued on Page 18

The new upgrade to the Xbox 360 system, NXE, allows for customizable avatars, which are similar to the Nintendo Wii's Miis.

## The Future is a Self Made Disaster

Colleen Porter  
Assistant Arts and Entertainment Editor

With the release of their self-released sophomore album

*The Future Belongs to Us*, the Connecticut quartet Self Made Soul kept it safe as most bands do with a second album. The second album a band releases can be the make or break of their career, but *Future* is so mediocre that it is hard to tell which side Self Made Soul will lean toward.

As a whole, the album is ok, but most of the songs sound very similar to one another and are a mix of upbeat and slow. The album starts out with "Prologue — The Future Belongs to Us," which is a slightly up-tempo song about hope, which isn't what a lot of musicians in this genre write about. Unfortunately, this song doesn't really grab the listener and make them want to listen to more. There isn't a hook or a catchy sound in most of the songs on the album. But if the brave listener continues on, it gets a little

bit better with songs like "Blindfold" and "Your Favorite Hiding Place." These two songs are a little more upbeat and catchy than the others and fit into the genre of alternative/punk rock. They fit better with the idea that a second album can make a career. Soul is better at writing individual songs than an entire album. Maybe they should have compiled the best songs and released an EP first.

The interesting collaboration of sounds that seem to be like Emery, Armor for Sleep and Anberlin all in one is something that is somewhat appealing on this album. Unfortunately, there is nothing really unique or original about this album, which makes it just like everything else that is in the genre.

Soul tries really hard to fit into a mold, but music these days needs some sort of originality to stand apart from the rest. If you like the sound of similarity, then this album is for you. ★★



courtesy of Self Made Soul

Self Made Soul is a new group that recently released a sophomore album entitled *The Future Belongs to Us*.



# Capcom's *Legend* in Review

James Carolan  
Webmaster

Everyone knows and loves the blue bomber, otherwise known as Megaman or Rockman in Japanese, from games like the original *Megman*, the *X* series and even the recent *EXE* series for the Game Boy Advanced. But the series that is most unknown and most underrated is none other than *Megaman Legends*, consisting of two direct games, *Legends 1 & 2*, and one spin-off game, *The Misadventures of Tron Bon*. The games are a strong set of firsts for Capcom's *Megaman* franchise.

The game was first released in 1998 for the Playstation and later ported on to the Nintendo 64 before recently transitioning to the PSP in Japan. This game introduced the *Megaman* series to the 3D world using a system that would be the predecessor to the 3D navigation system used in games like *Dead Rising*. The next thing that was introduced to the world of *Mega-*

*man* was complete voice acting. Though not amazing by today's standards, this game had the most complete voice acting at the time in a *Megaman* game. The last real transition the *Megaman Legends* game made was its game style. It went from a side scrolling shooter to an action-adventure epic much more like *The Legend of Zelda* than a traditional *Megaman* game. Normally this is something that throws everyone off of the game,

had to *Megaman*, along with the action. The large, epic plot that was revealed at the end of *Legends 1* was continued in the longer, more challenging *Legends 2*. Also, it is believed that the *Legends* series is the last in the *Megaman* timeline, which will hopefully be confirmed at the end of the *ZX* timeline when a natural disaster strikes, flooding most of the world. Lastly, there is the game's perfect ratio of action to comedy, which was a nice break from the often very morbid and depressing *X* series.

The most disappointing

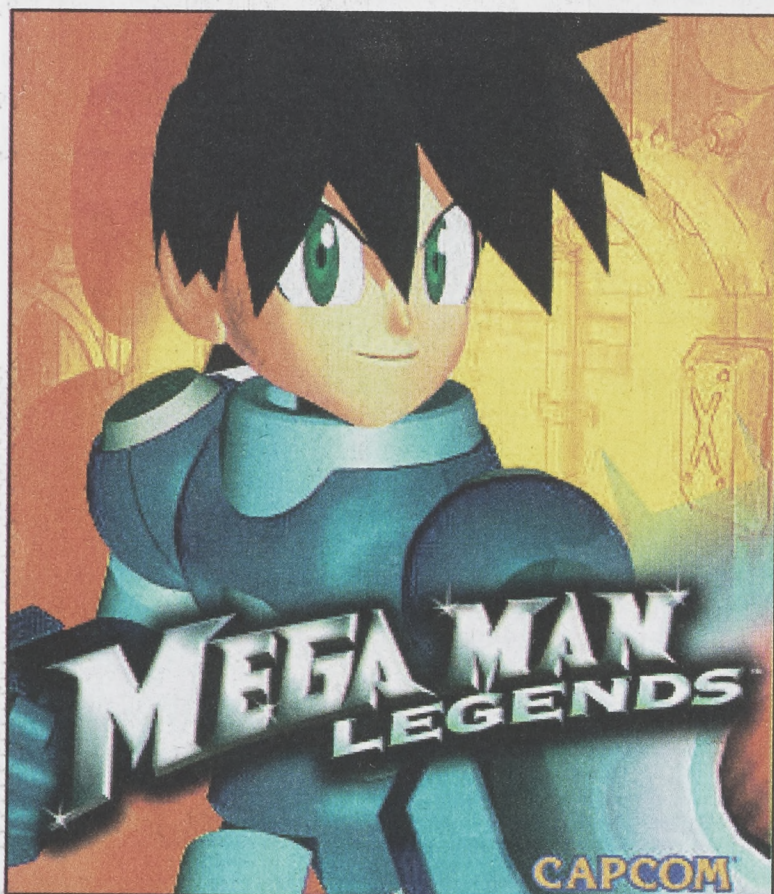
when the *Legends* games were re-released for PSP.

Now there is confirmation in an interview with the creator of *Megaman*, conducted by gaming website 1up.com, asking if there were any plans to bring the blue

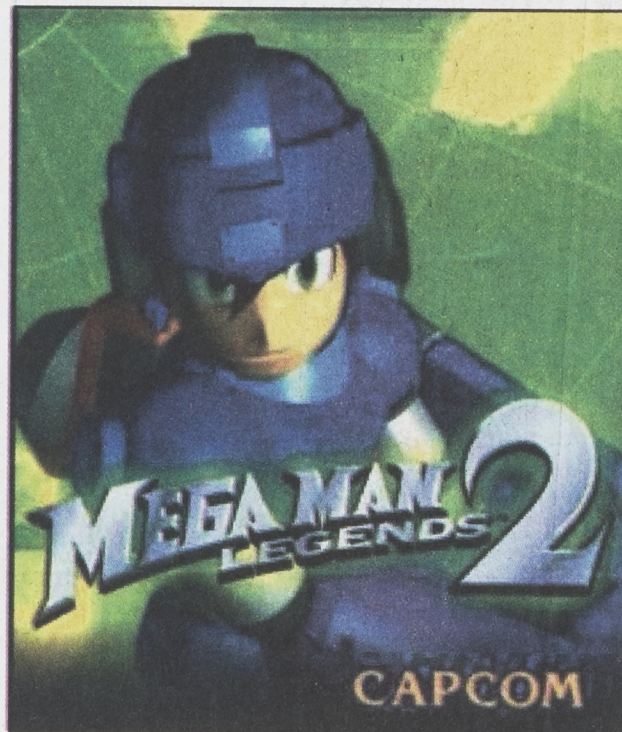
"...it is believed that the *Legends* series is the last in the *Megaman* timeline."

bomber to the next generation systems. He said that he'd like to, but worried that it would be impossible to recoup the costs of making such a game on next-gen platforms. So, when told to ignore the whole monetary part of it, he replied, "I think it probably would be *Megaman Legends 3*. And that's not just me — a lot of the original team members would also love to make a sequel. They talk about it. I talk about it sometimes. I know they love that series, and so do I. If I were to say right now, I have a tiny, tiny, dream that I wish I could realize, but I don't know if it's possible, it would be to do a sequel in the *Legends* series."

This is my sincere hope as well.



*Megaman Legends* is a series that pleased many fans of the *Megaman* series.



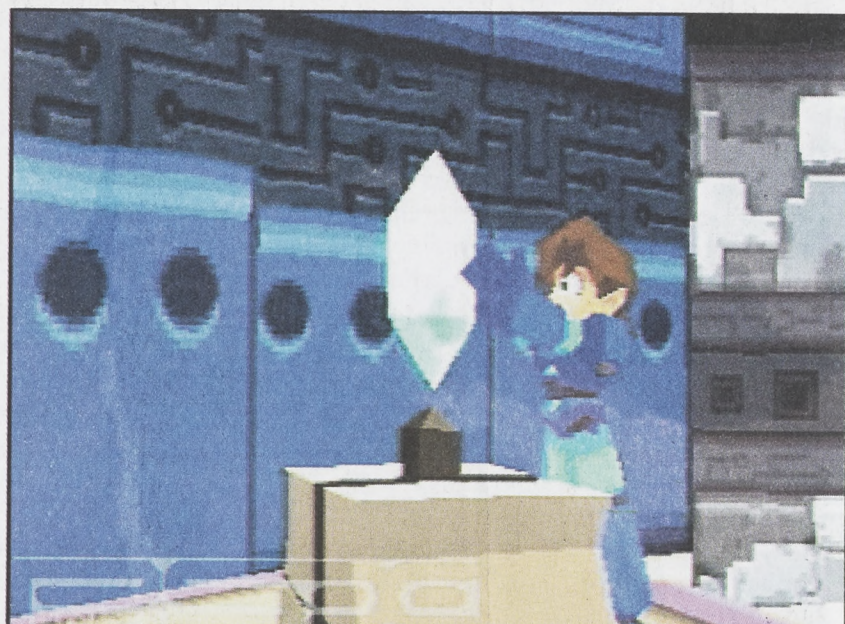
*Megaman Legends 2* picks up where the first game left off and leaves the gamers with the hope that the *Legends* games will become a trilogy.

saying that it doesn't stay true to the *Megaman* style. However, players think that this style of game play works well as was seen with the success of at least the first three *EXE* games (the three following this, as well as the series after, don't even compare, in my opinion).

Despite all the strides the series has made, the best part about it was none other than the story. The storyline was relateable for those around high school age because of the attraction Roll and Tron

thing about the game was not the many glitches of camera angles that come with early 3D games, but the ending of the second game, which left *Megaman* stranded on the moon.

If there was one *Megaman* game that should be seen in the next generation of consoles, other than a clear ending to the now changed *Megaman X* series, it is *Legends 3*. *Legends* fans might be in luck, as their hope was sparked



*Megaman*, as seen above, must handle a variety of tasks throughout the games.

## The *Twilight* Problem

Mia Seigert  
Staff Writer

Unless you've lived in a cave for the past few months, you've been subject to the cultural phenomenon that has plagued bookstores and the movie theater box office for the past ... well, really, who cares how long *The Twilight Saga* has been out? *Twilight*, otherwise known as *Not Another Lame Vampire Flick*, has snagged a cult following much like Anne Rice's *Vampire Chronicles*, save for the fact that instead of having blond, bisexual, rock star David Bowie — I mean, Lestat — we are graced with a growing army of emo kids. At its best, *Twilight* could be considered *The Vampire Chronicles*' excrement.

To put it kindly, Stephanie Meyer's world of *Twilight* will be remembered as an illiterate piece of garbage with its grammatical and spelling errors galore. Extending beyond that, *Twilight* is new anti-feminist propaganda that might as well have been campaigned by Sarah

Palin. *Twilight* sets women back to the centuries where they were viewed as objects and treated like damsels in distress, no better than in a bad romance novel. *Twilight* could be considered bad fan-fiction for anything Joss Whedon's made, save for the fact that we're not even given the respect of a true heroine with a Buffy versus Angel dynamic.

*Twilight* has been privileged enough to receive a *South Park* roast in which the goth kids start a rebellion to end the faux-vampire fad by burning down that store that everyone mocks yet secretly goes to (hint: it's called Hot Topic). Unfortunately, *South Park*'s message was overlooked by the hoard of *Twilight*-vamps who thought the episode complimented who they truly are and who they will be until the next disaster fad strikes.

Providing general amusement to the hoards subject to the *Twilight* virus, on Nov. 14, *USA Weekend* posted an online

Continued on Page 19

## Blockbuster Down Under Expectations



courtesy of 20th Century Fox

Lady Sarah Ashley (Nicole Kidman) and the nameless drover (Hugh Jackman) survey the grasslands of their cattle farm.

Jessica Lozak  
Arts and Entertainment Editor

Many movies have tried desperately to deliver a powerful story, set in a sweeping landscape, while trying to capture a lost period of time, but few tend to achieve this goal. Sadly, Baz Luhrmann's *Australia* does not reach the bar that has been set so high by epics like *Gone with the Wind* and *Titanic*.

This is not to say that *Australia* is a bad movie. In fact, it was very entertaining, but failed to live up to the expectations that it set for itself, even within itself. In the film, there are many references made to *The Wizard of Oz*, and there are parallels that can be drawn between that classic story and the one they are presenting, but the plot of *Australia* is a complete letdown when faced with this timeless piece of cinema.

It followed the basic formula of a romantic epic — the lovely and proper English lady, Lady Sarah Ashley (Nicole Kidman), comes to the Outback and inherits her late husband's cattle lands, along the way meeting the rugged cattle

drover (Hugh Jackman). Despite early bickering and misunderstandings, the two come to fall in love and all that jazz.

A unique element to the story is the character of Nullah, played by Aboriginal actor Brandon Walters. Nullah acts as both narrator and plot catalyst for the story, coming out as a true main character. As the child of a white father and an Aborigine mother, his character represents the troubled state of the country during the time period and draws the viewers past the superficial elements of the story.

The plot of the film can be broken down into two main parts: the first revolving around the Australian beef industry and the lifestyle of pre-war Australia, and the second showing the breakdown of the country during the threat of Japanese attacks.

The first portion of the story is the more likeable half. The viewer gets to experience the beauty of this unique country

Continued on Page 19



courtesy of Summit Entertainment

The hit series *Twilight*, though popular, also receives lots of criticism from people in the literary world.



# Orchestra [cont.]

Continued from Page 15

Next on the program, Hostetter returned to the podium alongside saxophonist Bixler for the *Saxophone Concerto*. Bixler teaches jazz and applied saxophone at the Cali School of Music and is an active performer in the New York jazz scene. He has written, performed and recorded many original works for his instrument. The concerto was written specifically for the evening's performance.

The concerto juxtaposes jazz and blues riffs with a concertato style (in classical music, concertato style denotes a back-and-forth interaction between soloist and orchestra). The first movement is a head-bobbing kind of piece with a brooding middle section. Bixler was in control technically, producing a warm, resonant sound in any tempo. The orchestra followed obediently, but fast unison passages challenged the violins' tuning, especially in the upper register.

The second movement was slow and somber, with an occasional rhythmic pulse by the percussion. Bixler caressed the melodic lines, producing a moving, sentimental sound against the orchestral accompaniment. The movement seemed to be inspired by romantic violin concertos, moving the melodic line in and out of tonalities and relying heavily on long, sustained notes for dramatic effect. The orchestra followed Hostetter diligently, producing an emotional impression.

"The last movement," said Hostetter before beginning the concerto, "is a musical blast." The movement indeed provoked foot tapping, mixing blues with action movie music. The moderately paced tempo also helped the piece to "groove." Bixler again became a jazz saxophonist, playing fast passages with flawless rhythm. Toward the end, Bixler stepped away from his music stand and improvised a cadenza. With its mix of jazz, romanticism and melodic originality, the Bixler concerto



courtesy of Mike Peters

The string section, including violins, was just one of the groups that shone during last Friday's stunning MSU Orchestra performance in the Kasser Theater.

should enter the underdeveloped saxophone concerto repertoire.

After the intermission came the Tchaikovsky piece, the second best known work of the concert (next to the national anthem). Before the performance Maestro Hostetter explained that "Tchaikovsky did not rely as much on the development of an idea, as much as he did on his ability to produce a beautiful melody." Indeed, his fourth symphony contains many melodic ideas, making it easy for the listener to get lost in the music.

The symphony opens with a stentorian solo for the French horns. Pressure might have gotten to the section; their intonation was unsure, resulting in a sound that lacked

confidence. It must have been mere stage fright, since the section played very well for the rest of the piece. The orchestra was very involved and musical in this movement. They had to be, since each section of the orchestra had its exposed moments.

The second movement opened with a solo oboe singing a melody of longing. Oboist Matthew Schmidt produced a warm, welcoming tone, as did other sections of the orchestra that later inherited the theme. The third movement, labeled "Scherzo; Pizzicato ostinato; Allegro," featured the string players plucking out a fast and playful melody. The wind players shared in Tchaikovsky's sense of humor, playing with

freshness and excitement.

The last movement seemed a bit fast for the violins. The issue of clarity again arose, as fast unison passages seemed at times blurred. As a whole, the movement was performed with excitement and exuberance.

After the finale came to a triumphant close, Hostetter graciously ignored the standing ovation until he acknowledged the entire orchestra section by section. The program was, as a whole, very effective and balanced, leaving a sense of positive musical fulfillment.

# Punisher [cont.]

Continued from Page 15

of bread. The over-the-top quality of violence is right in line with Garth Ennis' ultra-violent run on the *Punisher* comics, which is exactly the tone this movie seems to recreate. The movie thrives on extreme violence, and most of the film makers' creative resources seem to have gone to how to make each kill gorier than the last.

While the movie went to great lengths to recreate the gore from the best *Punisher* comics, there are two things that the film makers left out: story and character. While Stevenson does is good as the Punisher, his character really has nothing to do. He shoots a lot of people, then he stabs a lot of people, then he creepily watches a little girl sleep. Really, other than that, he does nothing. The film focuses too much on the villain, Jigsaw. Jigsaw is so poorly handled that his mere presence makes the film almost intolerable, so it is truly a shame that so much time is devoted to him.

The story in this film is also extreme-

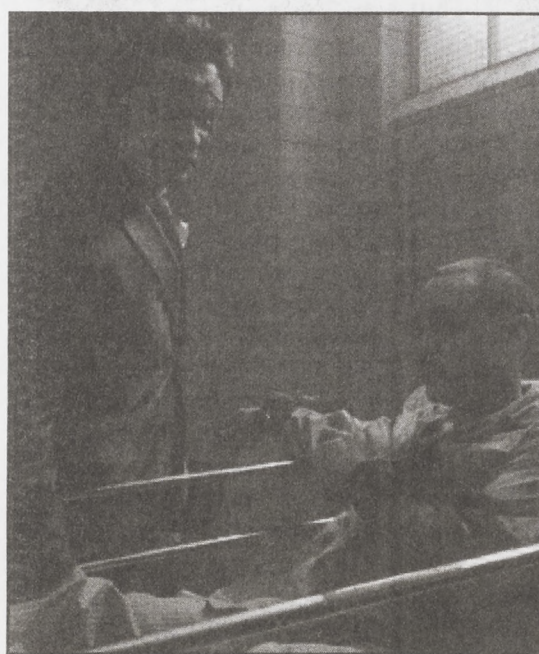
ly weak. The Punisher must come to terms with mistakenly killing an undercover FBI officer. And he does come to terms with it, around a half hour after it

happens. With that conflict solved, the film focuses on Jigsaw getting revenge on Punisher for disfiguring him. Along the way, the Punisher befriends the widow and daughter of the officer he killed and protects them from Jigsaw. Small scenes with the Punisher interacting with the officer's young daughter are touching but are never quite developed enough. These emotional scenes take a back seat to gore and action, and that is truly unfortunate.

While *Punisher: War Zone* does get some things right, it also gets many things wrong. Action and gore are all fantastic if there is a good story and characters attached to it. While some may like the over-the-top violence, there is not enough substance to keep the movie from feeling like a poorly directed snuff film.

★★

"While Stevenson is good as the Punisher, his character really has nothing to do. He shoots a lot of people, then he stabs a lot of people, then he creepily watches a little girl sleep. Really, other than that, he does nothing."

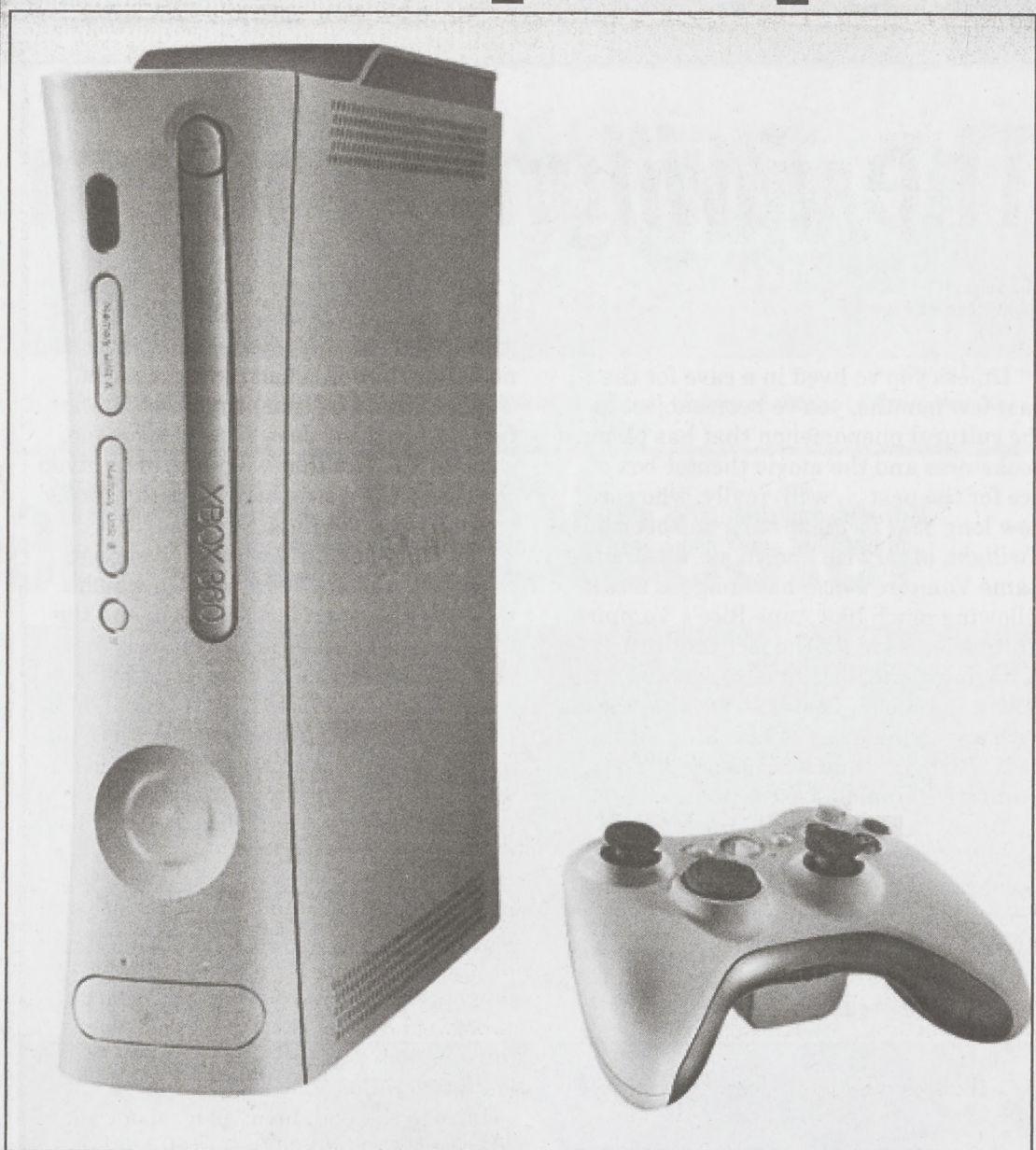


Jigsaw (Dominic West) broods in a villainous way (left) while the Punisher (Ray Stevenson) shoots his guns (right).



courtesy of Lionsgate

# NXE [cont.]



courtesy of Microsoft

The New Xbox Experience is a little bit of a letdown for gamers who are familiar with the old system.

Continued from Page 16

of use. The screen is very cluttered, with the menu list taking up the top left corner of the screen, and the sub-menus dominating the bottom half of the screen. To those who aren't familiar with or aren't able to use all the features of the NXE, navigating the dashboard could be quite cumbersome.

Netflix has integrated its on-demand download service with the NXE. Xbox Live users with separate Netflix subscriptions now have the option of renting and downloading thousands of high definition movies to their systems. The only issue here is the extra subscription (minimum \$8.99/month) for Netflix in addition to the monthly fee required for Xbox Live.

The biggest change that came with the NXE was the addition of avatars. Eerily similar to Nintendo Wii's Miis, avatars allow players to create cartoony characters to represent themselves on friend lists and games like *Uno* and *A Kingdom for Keflings*. Xbox's avatar creation system allows for more detail compared to Miis, adding clothing customization to the mix. However, a lack of facial features and actual clothing options leave much to be desired with the NXE.

The New Xbox Experience was a huge change for those used to the previous system. So many new things bombarded gamers after updating their systems.

Perhaps Microsoft would have been better off rolling out the new features one by one, rather than doing one big overhaul.

★★★



# PELICAN PLAYLIST

Kristie Cataffi, News Editor

"Santa Claus is Coming to Town" – Bruce Springsteen

Because it's that time of year when the wind starts whipping down the boardwalk and you hope Santa Claus brings you a new saxophone.

Christine Adamo, Chief Copy Editor

"Sleigh Ride" – Charlotte Church and Billy Gilman

This Christmas carol is one of the favorites, and it was never cuter than when sung by these two stars in their younger days. I wish I could keep Billy Gilman in my pocket and make him sing Christmas songs for me all the time.

Jessica Lozak, Arts and Entertainment Editor

"Christmas Don't Be Late" – Alvin and the Chipmunks

It's best when slowed down so you can hear that all of the voices are the same guy.

Nelson DePasquale, Sports Editor

"Dominick the Italian Christmas Donkey" – Lou Monte

Me and my paisan Jake with our gumba Buddy listen to it every day.

Buddy Aitken, Opinion Editor

"Carol of the Bells" – August Burns Red

Everyone has heard the Trans-Siberian Orchestra version, but I think this one is just better.

James Carolan, Webmaster

"Old City Bar" – Trans-Siberian Orchestra

I like it because it represents how easy it is to believe, and I cry when I hear it.

Eric Strickland, Production Editor

"What's This" – Danny Elfman

It's an awesome song that comes from an amazing movie. It starts to get me in the mood for Christmas when I hear it.

Kulsoom Rizvi, Assistant News Editor

"Noël" – The Animaniacs

This is an adorable holiday song from my 23-year-old sister's favorite show.

Jake Del Mauro, Assistant Sports Editor

"Dreidel, Dreidel" – South Park

Nasty and offensive, but since *South Park* did it, it's great.

Colleen Porter, Assistant Arts and Entertainment Editor

"Little Drummer Boy" – The Almost

It's ironic since the singer is also the drummer for Underoath. And he has an amazing voice.

Jason Serafino, Staff Writer

"Merry Christmas (I Don't Want to Fight Tonight)" – Ramones

Fighting and Christmas. In my family, that goes together like birthdays and court rooms.

Peter Schaus, Feature Editor

"All I Want for Christmas is You" – Mariah Carey

The best part of the holiday season is that it's socially acceptable to listen to this song. If I had my way, I'd play it all year long.

Jackie Zygadlo, Assistant News Editor

"Last Christmas" – Jimmy Eat World

It's really a hopeful Christmas song in disguise.

## Twilight [cont.]

Continued from Page 17

"What's Better" poll with the contestants *Harry Potter* and *Twilight*. The poll was spammed with more than 4,500 comments left by political figures, fictional characters, dead celebrities and more. For your viewing pleasure, a compiled list of the top 10 comments about this glorious series:

10) "They read *Twilight* to us in the work-house so we could sleep... but it ended up being the reason why I drink." – Tobias Raggs

9) "*Twilight* made me give up my pants." – Spongebob Squarepants

8) "I read *Twilight* as a boy, and I loved it. Nothing has influenced my life and actions more than the writing of SMeyer." – Voldemort

7) "Mon dieu, rip offs! I fart in *Twilight's* general direction!" – Lestat de Lioncourt

6) "*Twilight* is why I got elected." – George W. Bush

5) "SMeyer doesn't actually exist. I wrote the *Twilight* books so that the plot, characters and writing of Harry Potter would look sophisticated by comparison. I succeeded." – J.K. Rowling

4) "It's under nine thousaaaaaand!" – Vegeta

3) "This is the way the world ends. This is the way the world ends. This is the way the world ends. Not with a bang but a sparkle." – T.S. Eliot

2) "*Twilight* made me do it!" – Donnie Darko

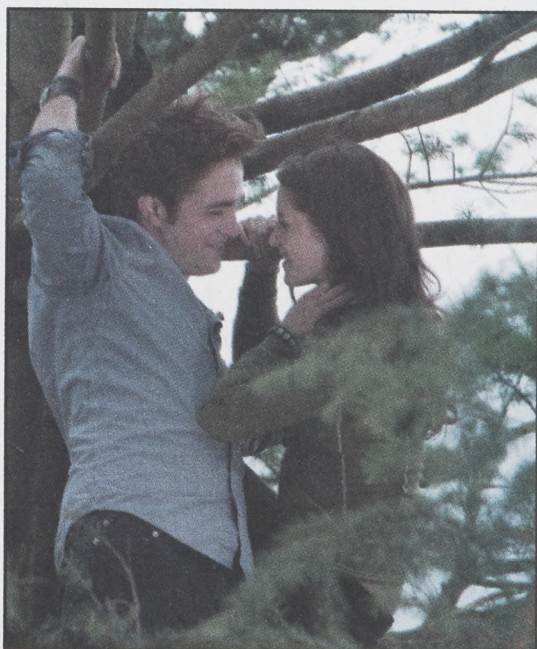
And my Number One Choice...

"Choose *Twilight*. Choose a blog. Choose a screen name. Choose Edward. Choose Jacob. Choose YouTube, no common sense and public humiliation. Choose quote tattoos. Choose creepy stalking.

Choose no friends. Choose prom dresses and matching sparkles. Choose Hot Topic and wonder who the f\*\*\* punched you on Sunday morning. Choose sitting on your couch watching mind-numbing, spirit-crushing MTV vids, stuffing f\*\*\*ing junk food into your mouth. Choose rotting away at the end of it all, p\*\*\*ing your last in a miserable theater, nothing more than an embarrassment to the selfish, f\*\*\*ed up actors you begged to bite you. Choose your future. Choose *Twilight*." – Renton

Readers, I implore that you think twice about purchasing *The Twilight Saga* for any use other than toilet paper. Help prevent the wave of stupidity that already is lowering its readers' IQs, rendering them creatures that would have done better if they had been the product of a botched frontal lobotomy. And, hey, if you don't think I'm reputable enough to give you this critical advice, that's fine. Before snagging that book from Borders or debating between seeing the *Twilight* movie or *Punisher*, ask yourself WWBBD (What Would Brian Boitano Do)?

(Link to the poll: [http://blogs.usaweekend.com/whos\\_news/2008/11/tell-us-whats-b.html](http://blogs.usaweekend.com/whos_news/2008/11/tell-us-whats-b.html))



courtesy of Summit Entertainment

*Twilight* seems to be a series that is hit or miss, but mostly miss.

## Australia [cont.]

Continued from Page 17

along with the character of Sarah Ashley, coming to understand the ways of the land both written and unwritten.

The movie starts to drag by the second half, drama being thrown in that feels forced in order to keep the movie floating along until the Japanese attack on the city of Darwin. The predictability of the plot also starts to wear on viewers as nothing truly comes as a surprise, despite several attempts.

Despite a plotline that was sometimes weak and boring, the movie was buoyed on by the stunning cinematography and the beauty of the natural scenery. There had been hopes during the production of the film that it would help to increase the tourist industry in Australia, and anyone watching the movie can not help but be drawn in by the country's vast landscape.

Another check in the win column for this movie is the top-notch acting. Kidman, Jackman and Walters all deliver convincing and entertaining performances, even if their characters lacked certain

depth. (Or in the case of Jackman's character, an actual name.)

Much credit has to be given to the supporting cast, especially the villain of the piece, Neil Fletcher. He was played by David Wenham, who not only lies, cheats and steals, but also enjoys some recreational rape and murder. Other stellar supporting cast members that provided much needed moments of humor and plot development were Kipling Flynn (Jack Thompson), Cath Carney (Essie Davis) and Margarri (David Ngoombujarra). As with most epics, there were dozens of other supporting characters that shone for their brief screentime (such as Ben Mendelsohn's Captain Dutton and Jacek Komar's Ivan), but there are too many to name.

Viewers who enjoy a phenomenal ensemble of actors set to a good, albeit unspectacular, love story with a historic setting will eat this movie up. Those looking for a more powerful message set to sweeping action and adventures will be left unfulfilled. But Jackman fans will be happy either way.

★★★



courtesy of 20th Century Fox

The beautiful Australian scenery is one of the positive things about the movie *Australia*, released in theaters on Nov. 26.



## Memories Take Forever



Lou Cunningham | The Montclarion

The yearbook organization under the Student Government, *La Campana*, has the largest budget of any organization under the SGA. Of the \$1.2 million that the SGA uses annually, over \$100,000 goes toward the yearbook.

However, *La Campana* has yet to release the yearbook from the 2007-2008 academic year. Normally, *La Campana* finishes the yearbook and sends it out over the summer. Yearbooks are on campus to be picked up by September for the seniors, who receive them for free. The 2007-2008 edition, however, is not expected to come to campus until at least January, months after the yearbooks should have been printed and handed out to all seniors.

Recent Montclair graduates have yet to receive the yearbooks that they have been promised from the SGA. All yearbooks are free to seniors and are funded solely by the SGA, which

gets its money from fees in student tuition.

Essentially, the students have paid for a yearbook to give to the seniors, and nobody has been given anything in return for these funds.

The yearbook in question that has yet to be given out is the centennial edition of *La Campana*, which has essentially been one hundred years in the making. From the looks of it, it may take one hundred more years for that edition to be seen.

*La Campana's* budget has always had problems. In 2006, the free yearbooks for seniors were almost replaced with a required fee to purchase one. A bailout was needed to level the debt created by the yearbook.

When asked about the delays, all that representatives from *La Campana* can say is that there have been "technical difficulties." For these difficulties to have gone the entire summer and fall semester without being resolved is

simply inexcusable.

There has literally been no action by the SGA to punish *La Campana* except for waving fingers. There has been no action by the organization to explain what is going on. Not one cent has been taken away from *La Campana* for not producing a yearbook. The organization was even discussed by outgoing SGA Treasurer Mike Dengelegi in his final report on Wednesday.

The SGA needs to take judicial action against *La Campana*, who, for some reason, has gone unpunished. Multiple organizations, such as LASO (Latin American Student Organization) and Class One Concerts, have had substantial amounts of their budgets taken away this semester for policy problems regarding the spending of their budgets.

The first actions of the new SGA treasurer, whenever he or she is named, should be to investigate what has happened with this organization

and penalize them accordingly, just like the SGA e-board has done to other SGA organizations this year. A large sum of money is being supplied to this organization, and no product is being supplied. If this is the case, then why is all of this money, generated by student fees, not being taken away from them?

Shame on the SGA for not addressing this issue for this entire time. These students have debated funds all semester for other organizations that do not compare to the large sum of money that are spent on yearbooks. The SGA is meant to represent the student body but is failing to see what has happened to money provided by those same students.

The yearbook is intended to represent the final memories for students at Montclair State University, but the lack of action toward the laziness of *La Campana* is giving some seniors less than favorable memories.

**In  
This  
Issue:**

**- Point Counter-Point: Was MSU's Centennial Year Memorable Or Disasterous?**

### THE WEEK IN REVIEW



**Thumbs Up to** the Bush administration finally ending.

**Thumbs Down to** the Internet getting screwed up.

**Thumbs Up to** the new handicap-accessible entrances.

**Thumbs Down to** no new SGA treasurer.



# 2008: A Memorable Centennial Year At Montclair State

One Student Reflects on the Many Successes From Montclair State University's Centennial Year



**JACKIE ZYGADLO**  
ASSISTANT NEWS  
EDITOR

The year 2008 was one of celebration and improvement for Montclair State University — it was like an extended spring.

Things started off rather chilly in January when *The Montclarion's* budget was frozen, but on Feb. 28, President Susan Cole granted *The Montclarion* its

independence from the SGA after 75 years. This became official in August and resulted in *The Montclarion* being a separate enterprise under the administration.

In late March, the \$28.8 million dollar Student Recreation Center finally opened after being delayed for two years. The Rec. Center is a great place for students to work out to an inspiring view of the NYC skyline, or join a Group X class.

Panzer Gym has been going under a new contractor, and renovations will not be completed until May. The Student Recreation Center was also the

site of the Centennial Gala, a black-tie dinner dance for alumni and school benefactors.

The Gala, along with the Centennial Festival held on Sept. 17, marked the end of a year-long celebration of Montclair State University's 100 years. During this time, MSU gained university status from its humble beginnings as a normal school, when College Hall was the only building on campus.

In preparation for Election Day, numerous rallies for Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama were held on campus, encouraging students to vote. More events and programs were held as Election Day got closer and closer. Buses were even offered on Election Day to take residents who were unable to go home to vote to the Mt. Hebron School in Montclair do so.

Viewing parties were held at the Rathskellar as the results poured in from state to state. By about 11:30 p.m., it was announced that Obama had received 365 electoral votes compared to John McCain's 173.

The Blanton quad area became a party with crowds of students cheering in the quad and on

the Blanton balconies overlooking the Atrium. Fireworks were set off, which is actually illegal in N.J., but it didn't matter because Montclair State students were celebrating, rejoicing in the fact that their vote made a difference.

When MSU first opened as a teaching school in September 1908, there were 187 students enrolled,

compared to the 16,700 enrolled today. With every freshman class, Montclair State is looking to surpass the total number entering from the previous year.

Undergraduate Admissions has already received 6,082 applications, and it's only December. State schools all across New Jersey have seen an increase in applications. Montclair State University's are up 44 percent, according to a recent article in *The Record*.

Following a global trend, Montclair State also went green this year when it signed an agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency on June 17 to do its part to help save the environment. This resulted in the dining halls going trayless, putting leftover food in the composter behind University Hall and planting trees to beautify the campus.

Besides improving the campus by going green, Clove Road apartments received much-needed repairs over the summer, College Hall is undergoing renovations and asbestos removal. Construction on the John J. Cali School of Music and the new 303 bed dormitory next to the Village Apartments is set to be completed in August 2009.

MSU has also received more celebrity exposure this year. New York Giants' wide receiver and Super Bowl XLII hero David Tyree signed his book and spoke of his faith in November. Cast members from *The Real World* discussed their experiences on the popular MTV reality show in April as a part of Spring Week festivities.

A renowned makeup artist has a studio off campus where make-up classes are taught. Boy band Hanson took a walk around campus in October to raise awareness and help fight AIDS in Africa. Rapper Method Man of the Wu-Tang Clan performed at Class One Concert's Montclairfest in front of thousands of Montclair students this past April.

Every year, Montclair State University is looking to become even bigger and better than ever. It looks like 2008 achieved that. I predict that 2009 will be no exception.

*Jackie Zygadlo, an English major, is in her second year as Assistant News Editor of The Montclarion.*

## Point

## Counter-Point

### This Week:

### Montclair State's Centennial Year: Memorable or One to Forget?

## MSU's Ninety-Nine Good Years, Twelve Months To Forget

Opinion Editor Points Out the Many Flops and Failures That Occurred During MSU's Centennial Year



**ROBERT AITKEN**  
OPINION EDITOR

The centennial year at Montclair State University has been a memorable one, but not in the ways that the administration would have liked. This past year had the potential to be great for the school's history, but it will likely go down as a year with too many disappointments.

The year began with disputes between the SGA and *The Montclarion*, which received national attention. Some news outlets could not believe that the matter took so long to be resolved by the Montclair State administration.

The construction on campus has changed this past year. Construction has been happening all over MSU during 2008. The Student Recreation Center opened in March after delays. After just four days of operation, a pipe connected to the pool flooded the building, forcing students to evacuate. Other construction sites on campus have included Panzer Gymnasium, Mallory Hall, the new John J. Cali School of Music and the new residence hall next to The Village Apartments.

In April, floods and fires plagued our campus. Pipes burst, and trash cans were set on fire all over campus. At that point, anything seemed like it was going to happen on MSU's campus. And it did. As the spring semester wound down, a threat was written on a Dickson Hall desk, putting the campus on lockdown with police from multiple departments circling campus the entire day. Multiple other threats were written during the year, from desks in Dickson to cafeteria trays in the Freeman dining hall.

Despite the fact that there was a year-long celebration for the centennial, many of the centennial events this year excluded the current student body. The Centennial Gala took place in the new Rec. Center, where many alumni and important people to the campus gathered for a dinner.

The Centennial Festival was also an all-day event that was more of a carnival than anything. The day seemed dedicated to old alumni of the school and their grandchildren, with sand art and the band War, who was popular before any average

undergrad student was even a thought in their parent's minds, performing in Yogi Berra Stadium.

Some problems from student organizations have plagued the campus this year. The fraternity Phi Beta Sigma ran into some problems this year after an event they held. Money raised at the event was advertised as being donated to the Salvation Army.

The problem is that the money never made it to the Salvation Army. The fraternity was suspended for a year by the SGA.

Speaking of the SGA, an amendment was discovered in their constitution that was financially illegal. The organization has it written that money would return to the students as a refund if the SGA ever went under. The problem with

this is that, as a non-profit corporation, the SGA cannot legally return money to those who "donated" it to them. A campus-wide vote, where every student needs to vote, must happen for this to change. Otherwise, the SGA must dissolve and rebuild itself all over again.

There has also been persecution of demograph-

ics all year long. Swastikas and derogatory words were written on walls and doors of The Village Apartments. *The Montclarion* mistakenly put a nationally syndicated cartoon into an issue this semester that included part of the "n" word. Just a few weeks ago, a condom was put on the doorknob of the Newman Catholic Center.

The condom on the Catholic Center was one of many stories covered by news outlets this semester. Other notable stories were the campus lockdown and *The Montclarion's* struggles with the SGA. All of these stories put the campus in a negative light. There is a saying that there is no such thing as negative publicity. Montclair State, however, has disproven that idea. Even with a record number of applications, this year must have scared some students out of even applying to MSU.

The latest event to plague our campus that has been covered by outside media has been the numerous trash can fires that have delayed classes on multiple occasions in Partridge and University Hall. As finals begin, the campus is watching and waiting to see if the arsonist strikes once again.

The 100th year of existence for Montclair State University is all but over now. With so much hype and so much focus on the campus, 2008 will probably go down as one of the most disappointing years in the century at Montclair State.

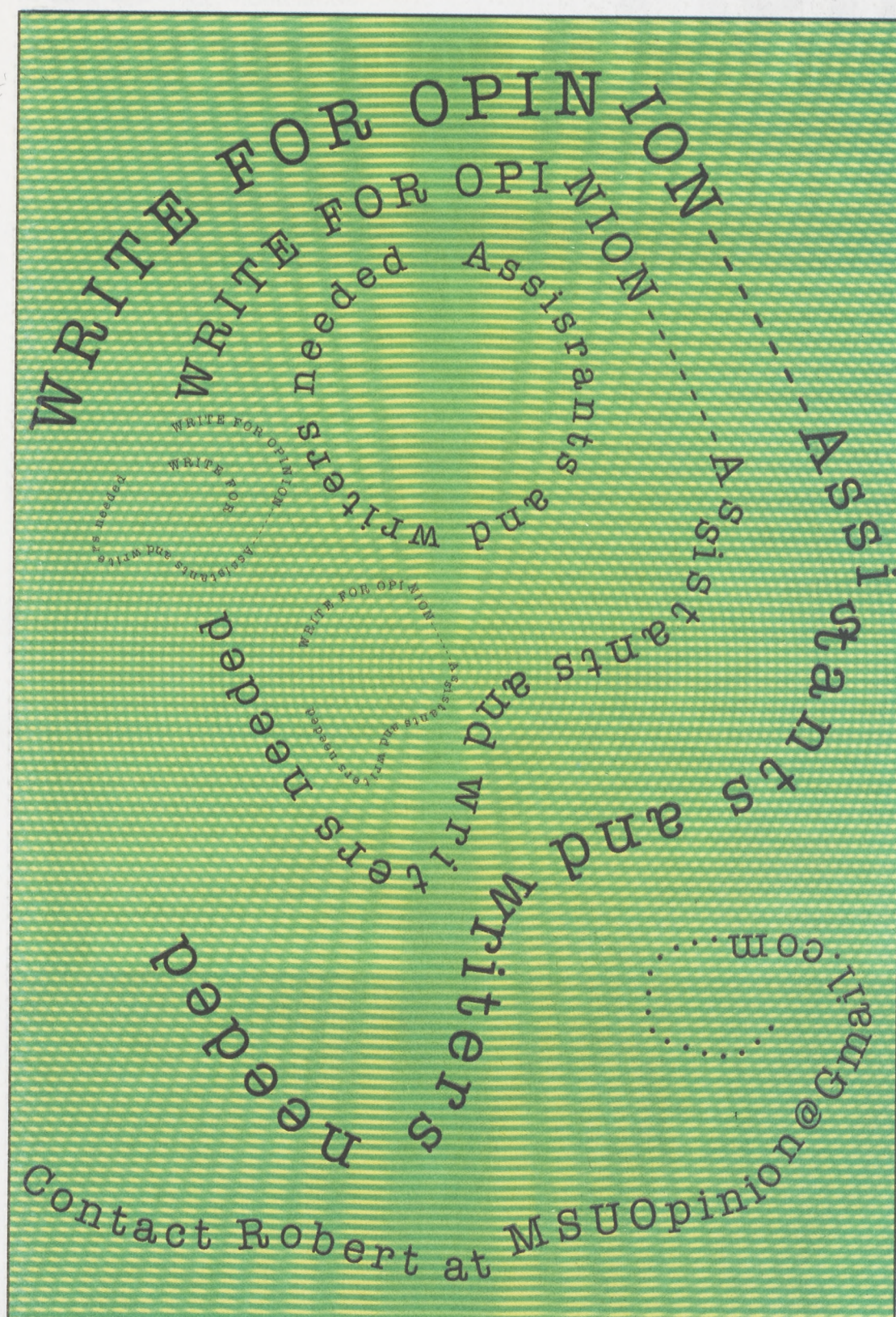
*Robert Aitken, an English major, is in his second year as Opinion Editor of The Montclarion.*

## Have an idea for Point

## Counter-Point?

### Send an e-mail to [msuopinion@gmail.com](mailto:msuopinion@gmail.com)





Sam Gherman | The Montclarion

## Montclarion Mailbag: Online Edition

The following are responses on [themontclarion.org](http://themontclarion.org) to the article "Underground Fraternity, Sororities Can Face Consequences," that was posted on Dec. 4, 2008:

I find it quite amazing that *The Montclarion*, a student run newspaper that has the university's blessings, has written about something that is simply a waste of paper in my mind. This article interests me as much as literature on vasectomies that I find in a doctor's office. I find it troubling that the word "muckraker" hasn't come to mind to any of the people that had a hand in this article. Painted rocks are the least of my troubles, however the economy, how much money I can borrow for school next year, what kind of work force I am going to face in the future and, even more important then this article, what I'm going to wear tomorrow. Simply put, change the name of *The Montclarion* to *The Montclarion's Tabloid*. Why don't you put my money to good use and write what the whole campus population wants to hear about; maybe you will inform us and not entertain with hear-say.

Username Robert M.

Regardless of how much money was given to whomever, Senate clearly violated "letters U and X of the student code of conduct, violation of written university policy, regulations..." If convicted, there is absolutely no justifiable reason for them not to be punished. Other organizations are forced to follow the rules, and they do. The Senate is an embarrassment (and a shame) to Montclair State University's reputation. Therefore, it was rightfully banned a few years ago.

Also, regarding your "money" comment, are you insinuating that Montclair State University and/or the Student Government Association would partake in some sort of corruption?

There are many questions to be answered.

Username Morris S.

The following is a response on [themontclarion.org](http://themontclarion.org) to the article "You Mess With Fire ..." that was posted on Dec. 4, 2008.

I agree with the editorial's sentiment about installing cameras. It might be an invasion of privacy to some people, but University Hall and the other class halls are more public than the dorms, for one thing, and for another, I'm getting very sick of buildings being closed and more arson reported. The installation of cameras would surely cut down on the instances, or at least make people more leery of setting fires.

As of today, University Hall has been closed again and again, the e-mails said absolutely nothing helpful. It's only through *The Montclarion's* coverage that I know what's going on at all.

This is getting ridiculous. As I said before, I'm very tired of the arson and all the other crap that's going on on campus. This is my campus, and I don't appreciate sharing it with immature people who think it's a brilliant idea to set things on fire.

Username mlackeyfan08

(Additional comments can be found on [themontclarion.org](http://themontclarion.org))

Write to  
the Montclarion's  
Mailbag  
Write to Robert at  
MSUOpinion@gmail.com

Sam Gherman | The Montclarion

## Students Speak

What is one gift that Montclair State should get for Christmas? Why?



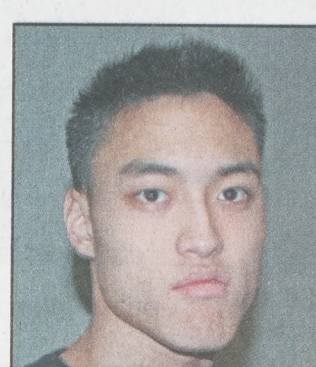
Amanda DeNorscio  
Junior  
English

"Constant 24-hour shuttle bus service from the LaQuinta Inn to campus, so that other students won't be excluded."



Thomas Molloy  
Junior  
Marketing and Finance

"An on-campus bar for those who are 21. Perhaps one we could use our meal plans for."



Christopher Lee  
Sophomore  
Physical Education

"A new parking lot. Money should go to have less congestion on our over-populated campus."



Michael Cherveneyck  
Freshman  
Athletic Training

"New elevators in Bohn Hall. Since I began living there, people have been stuck in there four or five times."

### Students Speak Policy

Responses to Students Speak are the opinions of the students of Montclair State University and are not necessarily those of the staff of *The Montclarion* and Montelican Publishing, Inc. Once given, responses are the property of *The Montclarion* and Montelican Publishing, Inc. and is eligible for editing where felt necessary. Responses were given on the campus of Montclair State University on Wednesday Dec. 10, 2008.

### The Montclarion Mailbag Policy

All letters must be typed via e-mail. Letters exceeding 750 words will not be considered for publication. Once recieved, letters are the property of *The Montclarion* and Montelican Publishing, Inc. and may be edited for length, content and libel. Letters will not be printed unless they include the author's name, year and major. Letters cannot be written by multiple authors. Only one letter by an author will be printed each month. Letters must pertain to issues addressed by *Montclarion* articles. Submission deadline is Monday at 10 p.m. Letters must be submitted through e-mail as Microsoft Word documents to [msuopinion@gmail.com](mailto:msuopinion@gmail.com).



**Child Care Wanted**

Babysitter needed for our sweet 3-year-old son in Bloomfield. Hours needed Monday - Friday 2:20 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Looking to start immediately. Please contact Meredith Reilly at 201-400-3661. \$10-12 an hour.

CHILD CARE WANTED for 5 year-old and 3 year-old in Upper Montclair home, 2-3 weekday afternoons from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Seeking caring, responsible, energetic individual with references; non-smoking home. Call 917-951-2529.

Family in Wyckoff N.J. is looking for responsible, creative and energetic education major (or other) student. This position includes driving, errands and dog walking. Monday thru Friday. 2:30 - 5:30 p.m. If your schedule permits, there is the possibility of additional hours. Salary: \$15/hr net. If interested, please send your résumé and cover letter telling us about yourself to nannywyckoff@gmail.com.

**Room Available**

1 Bedroom Apt. 2nd floor, Lg. Eat-in Kitchen, Lg. Bath. Totowa Section, Paterson, Clean, Private Home. Immediate Occ. 973-942-8980 - Dave. \$780 All Utilities and Cable.

Female students: Single & double rooms for Spring Semester Jan 2009. Furnished, parking available, easy walk - across from campus. Internet and cable available. Transfers welcome. Info 973-778-1504.

Furnished room for rent-available immediately. Minutes from college, parking cable, DVD player, utilities and some laundry included. Non-smoker, female preferred. MUST LOVE DOGS. Call 973-256-5546

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# Graphics

**ASSISTANTS WANTED  
CONTACT SAM AT  
MSUGRAPHICS@GMAIL.COM**



## PERSONALS!

YaY!!!!!!!!!!!! Last  
**Montclarion** of the  
semester.  
-Alpha Phi Omega

With Love, I hope  
you're liking tales of  
Vesperia, Kid.

Congratulations on  
a great semester,  
**Montclarion** staff!  
-Love, Copy Bunny

Jess: You still have a  
funny face.

Laura: All I ever  
wanted was your glove!

Eric, you are my lover  
boy. I love you so much!  
Love, Ally

Jenny P: Bill Cosby  
sings the classics.

Brittany: Our shower  
finally functions in  
the last week of the  
semester! Consider it a  
victory.

Jen: Mmmm... cookies.

Robin: Good luck on  
those Go problems.

Chrissy and Laura: Meh.  
Love, Pudding Bear

This goes out to the  
best Tuesday buddy  
ever! I am going to miss  
Tuesdays with you.

Good luck with the  
creepy Wii guy. You're  
going to need it. Sorry  
I won't be there to save  
you next semester.

Eric: Burn-e

You are cute. Talk to me  
more. Love, August

Ally, you are the best  
girlfriend ever! I can't  
wait to go away with  
you! Congrats on your  
graduation! Love, Eric

K- The PAs love you!  
Your smile makes us  
melt!

Did you know there is  
cheese on the moon?

N: I like you, but I'm  
too shy to say it! -CB

Congratualtions to all  
the graduating students  
this December!

Yay for no more papers!

Pick up the green cup  
and then visit me in  
April.

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## NELSON'S PICKS

(SPORTS EDITOR)

Bears over Saints

Falcons over Bucs

Redskins over Bengals

Texans over Titans

(Upset Special)

Packers over Jags

49ers over Dolphins

Seahawks over Rams

Jets over Bills

Chargers over Chiefs

Colts over Lions

Vikings over Cardinals

Steelers over Ravens

Broncos over Panthers

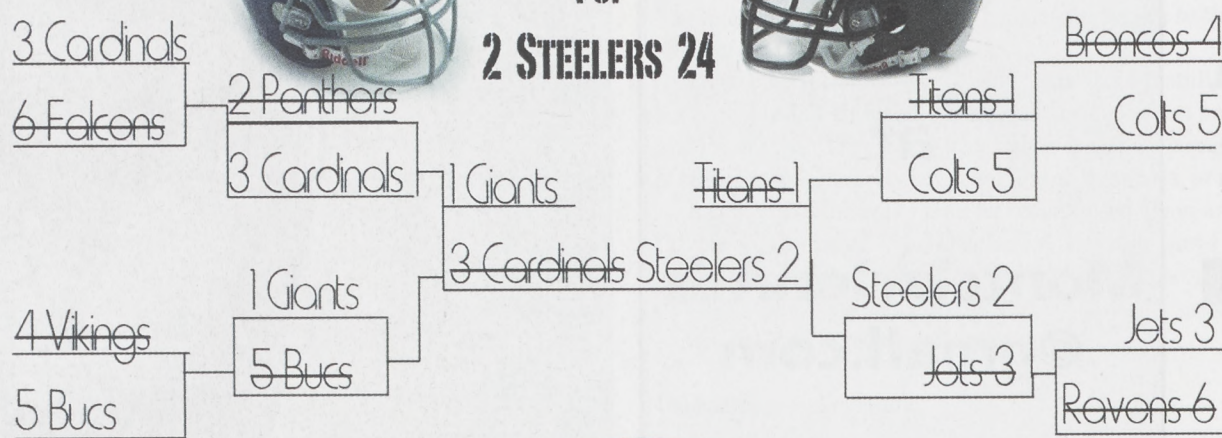
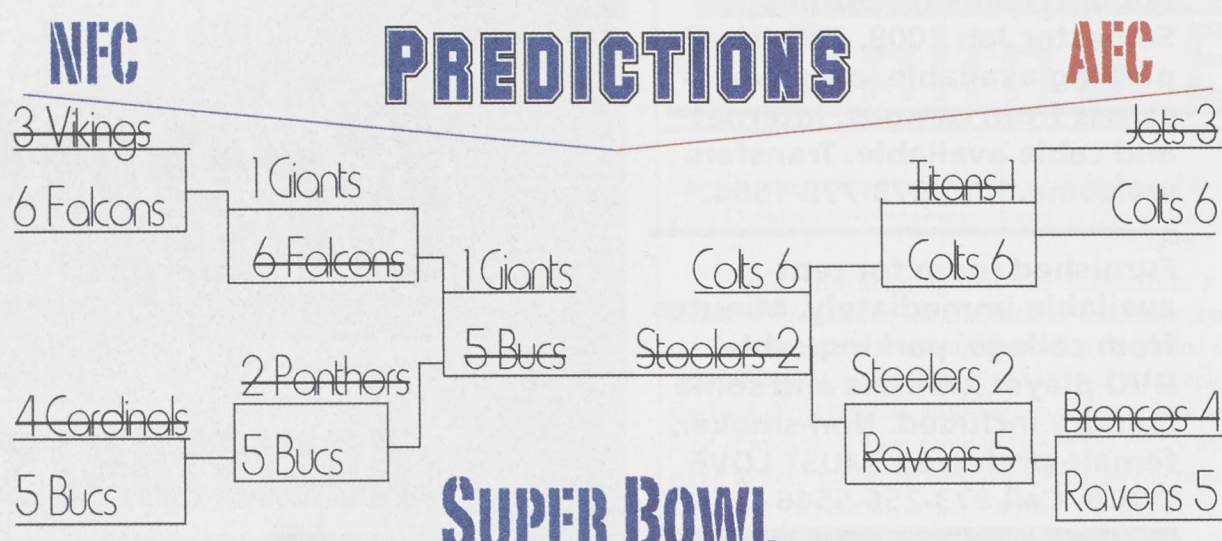
Patriots over Raiders

Giants over Cowboys

Eagles over Browns

Overall record: 108-69-1

## NELSON'S PLAYOFF PREDICTIONS



## JAKE'S PLAYOFF PREDICTIONS

## JAKE'S PICKS

(ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR)

Saints over Bears

Bucs over Falcons

Redskins over Bengals

Titans over Texans

Packers over Jags

Dolphins over 49ers

Rams over Seahawks

(Upset Special)

Jets over Bills

Chargers over Chiefs

Colts over Bengals

Cardinals over Vikings

Steelers over Ravens

Panthers over Broncos

Pats over Raiders

Giants over Cowboys

Eagles over Browns

Overall record: 108-69-1

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# What's Shakin' with Aitken

## The Second Annual Shakin' Awards

**Robert Aitken**  
Opinion Editor

As 2008 is almost over, it is time to look back on an insane year in sports and celebrate those that we will always remember for the wrong reasons. It is now time for the Second Annual Shakin' Awards.

Our first category is the Don Imus Freedom of Speech Award for Dumbest Statement or Rant. The nominees are: Dallas Stars forward Sean Avery addressing other NHL players about taking his "sloppy seconds," KLTJ DJs Chris Baker and Langdon Perry saying that NBA legend Ervin "Magic" Johnson "faked AIDS" and Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Donovan McNabb stating that he did not know that ties existed in the NFL.

Winner: Baker and Perry.

Reason: Avery's statement was done very nonchalantly, and he got suspended for what many people refer to as just a funny statement.

McNabb's post-game statement proves that players with million-dollar salaries don't know how to do their job. This qualifies him for a later category.

But Baker and Perry, attempting to be shock jocks, said something that not even Imus himself would say. This did not get as much press as Imus, and both men still work for the station. Where is Al Sharpton when you needed him?

Our next award is the Sucking At Your Job The Most Award. This honor is reserved for those associated with sports who just can't do their job right.

The nominees are: SEC referee Wilbur Hackett Jr. throwing a shoulder at South Carolina quarterback Stephen Garcia, "tackling" him short of the goal line, McNabb's comment about ties and Detroit Lions Dan Orlovsky running out of the endzone and not realizing it, causing a safety.

Winner: Orlovsky.

Reason: Donovan McNabb's comments were good enough for multiple categories, but not enough to win.

Hackett's actions were playing non-stop on TV and YouTube with many people blaming him and wanting him fired. Rightfully so, he wasn't.

Orlovsky symbolizes Detroit's season so far, which is still without a winless one at this point. Orlovsky resembled a scared puppy. For any quarterback, or NFL player for that matter, to

not know where they are on the field is embarrassing. Orlovsky said, "When they started blowing the whistle, I was like, 'Did we false start, or were they offsides or something?' And I looked, and I was just like, 'You're an idiot.'"

I couldn't have said it any better myself.

It is now time for a special honor reserved for a moment in sports that brings only one thought to mind: the WTF Award. WTF, of course, stands for "Wow, That's [Messed] Up."

There are many moments to choose from, but the Brett Favre saga is, by far, the lowest moment of sports this year. Favre put the Green Bay Packers in the news for months earlier this year. First, he wanted to retire, and then he wanted to play, but the Packers wanted to move on. Favre forced a trade to the New York Jets, which taints his ironman legacy partially. I personally always respected Favre until this saga.

Before we end about the moments in sports this year, we must celebrate the lives of those in the sports world that were lost in the past 12 months. These are the notable losses that we experienced in 2008.

Jim McKay, the famous host of ABC's *Wide World of Sports*, passed away in June at the age of 86. McKay is an inspiration to every sports journalist who has ever dreamed of becoming famous. Gene Upshaw, a Pro Football Hall of Famer and the director of the NFL Players' Association, passed away in late August, just before the football season began. Don Haskins, coach of Texas Western, the 1966 NCAA basketball champions and inspiration for the movie *Glory Road*, died in early September.

Actor and racecar team owner Paul Newman passed away in late September. Finally, and perhaps most tragically, professional hockey player Alexi Cherepanov died after collapsing on the bench during a game in Russia. Cherepanov had been drafted in 2007 to play for the New York Rangers but was playing out his remaining contract in Russia. Cherepanov was only 19 years old when he died on Oct. 13. The exact cause of death is still uncertain.

It will be interesting to see how 2008 will affect 2009, because in order to move into the future, you must first be able to reflect upon the past.

The upcoming sports year will have a lot to reflect on and live up to.

## FANTASY FOOTBALL UPDATE

### SPECIAL EDITION

### WEEK XV

**Bucs vs. Falcons**  
Buy- Jeff Garcia  
Sell- Michael Turner

**Titans vs. Texans**  
Buy- Andre Johnson  
Sell- Kerry Collins

**Redskins vs. Bengals**  
Buy- Clinton Portis  
Sell- Ocho Cinco

**Vikings vs. Cardinals**  
Buy- Adrian Peterson  
Sell- Travis Jackson

**Seahawks vs. Rams**  
Buy- Seneca Wallace

**Broncos vs. Panthers**  
Buy- All Running Backs  
Sell- Jake DelHomme

**49ers vs. Dolphins**  
Buy- Frank Gore  
Sell- Chad Pennington

**Steelers vs. Ravens**  
Buy- Both Defenses  
Sell- Both Offenses

**Bills vs. Jets**  
Buy- Thomas Jones/Leon Washington  
Sell- Marshawn Lynch

**Patriots vs. Raiders**  
Buy- Randy Moss  
Sell- Darren McFadden

**Lions vs. Colts**  
Buy- Manning, Harrison, Wayne, Addai  
Sell- Smith, Johnson, Culpepper

**Giants vs. Cowboys**  
Buy- Eli Manning  
Sell- Tony Romo

**Chargers vs. Chiefs**  
Buy- Thigpen  
Sell- Ladanian Tomlinson

**Browns vs. Eagles**  
Buy- Eagles offense  
Sell- Braylon Edwards

**Packers vs. Jags**  
Buy- Grant  
Sell- Garrard

Do you like sports?

Do you go to MSU

sports events?

Write for The

Montclarion's

sports section.

Contact Nelson at

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# INSIDE THE MSU ATHLETE

*Jackie Berry*

*WOMEN'S BASKETBALL'S OWN JACKIE BERRY SPEAKS TO THE MONTCLARION ABOUT BASKETBALL AS A SPORT AND A WAY OF LIVING AS THE SEASON BEGINS THIS WEEK ON "INSIDE THE MSU ATHLETE."*

Interviewed by: Jake DelMauro  
Name: *Jackie Berry*

Age: *21*

Sport: *Women's Basketball*

Position: *Guard*

Major: *Physical Education*

Years on team: *Three*

Q: When did you start playing basketball?

*A: I have two older sisters, so I have always been around sports. I have been playing softball since I was five (I stopped in college). I started field hockey in seventh grade and played my freshman year here, then I stopped. I have been playing basketball since second grade.*

Q: When did you realize basketball was your sport?

*A: Basketball has always been my favorite sport; softball was too slow of a sport for me, and in outdoor sports I was always cold.*

Q: If you had to pick any other sport to play in college, what would it be and why?

*A: I would pick field hockey because I miss it.*

Q: Do you have any superstitions before or during the game?

*A: Yes, I have superstitions. Just stupid things like the order we warm up, or some songs I listen to on my iPod, things like that.*

Q: Early in this season, what can you say about the team so far?

*A: I love this team. We are like a family; we all get along so well, and this is one of the best starts we have had (although our record doesn't show it). We are in great shape, and I think this will be a great season for us.*

Q: What is a normal day like for you?

*A: A normal day, I get up at around 8 a.m. for classes (except on Friday, no class). Then, depending on the day, I might get breakfast. For the most part, I have class until 2:15. Our practice times vary; sometimes they are at 3 and other times at 5:30, so if we have the late practice, I will either try to get some work done, or I might nap. If we have the early practice, I usually don't get to take a nap, but I do get more work done on those days. I eat lunch usually before practice, between one of my classes. And dinner I sometimes don't get to eat until 8:30 or 9. I usually get to bed by 12.*

Q: What are your plans after college?

*A: After college, I plan to become a physical education teacher and hopefully a basketball coach, and maybe even coach field hockey or softball.*



Courtesy of Sports Information

## JACKIE BERRY

JUNIOR  
6'-2", 240 LBS  
GUARD #11

## SEASON STATISTICS

7 GAMES- 7 STARTS  
33 FG%  
73.5 FT%  
6.9 RPG  
4.1 APG  
9 PPG

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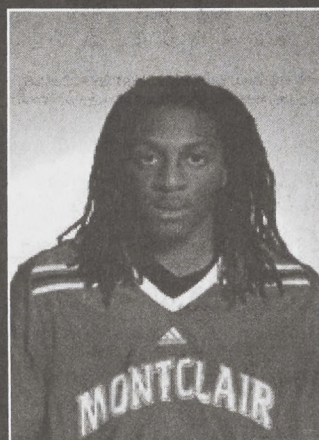
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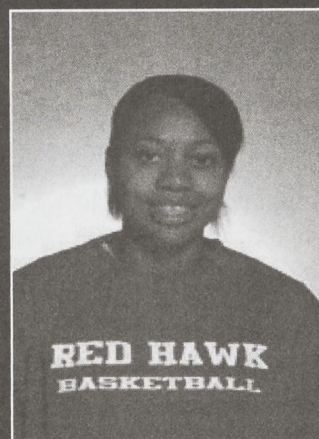


# Red Hawk Stats

## the WHO'S HOT list

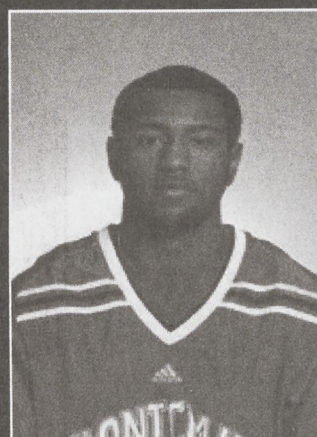


**ALI MIX**  
GUARD – MEN'S BASKETBALL  
COMING OFF THE BENCH, MIX HAD 13 POINTS IN THE TEAM'S WIN AGAINST NJCU AND ADDED 10 IN THE RED HAWK'S VICTORY AGAINST TCNJ.



**KISANDRA AYANBEKU**  
GUARD – WOMEN'S BASKETBALL  
THE JUNIOR HAD A DOUBLE-DOUBLE OF 10 POINTS AND 10 REBOUNDS IN THE TEAM'S WIN AGAINST NJCU AND LEADS THE TEAM IN REBOUNDS THIS SEASON, AVERAGING 8.7 A GAME.

**JAMES WILLIAMS**  
GUARD – MEN'S BASKETBALL  
NAMED NJAC PLAYER OF THE WEEK. WILLIAMS SCORED 26 POINTS AGAINST NJCU AND 20 IN THE TEAM'S OVERTIME WIN VERSUS TCNJ.



Men's Basketball		
North	NJAC	Overall
RU-Newark	2-0	6-2
MSU	2-0	4-3
William Paterson	1-0	6-1
NJCU	1-1	3-3
Ramapo	0-2	4-3
South		
Richard Stockton	2-0	8-1
Rowan	1-1	3-5
TCNJ	0-1	3-3
Kean	0-2	3-5
RU-Camden	0-2	3-5

This Week  
12/12 vs. Averett (at Messiah) 5 p.m.  
12/13 vs. Messiah/Baptist Bible (at Messiah) 1/3 p.m.

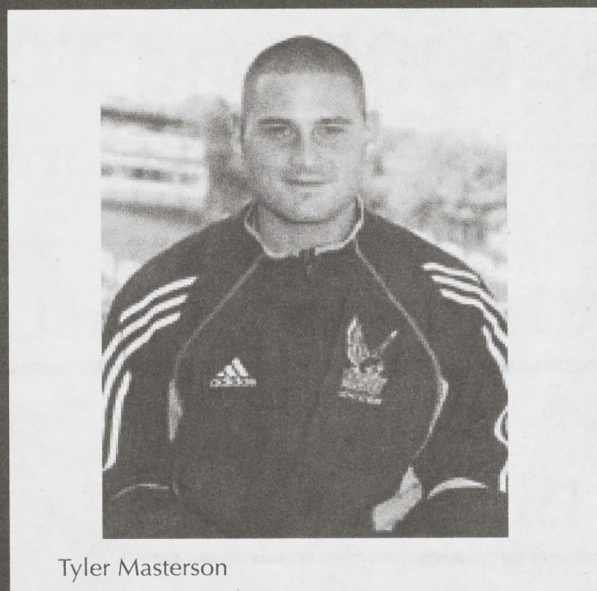
Last Week  
12/6 MSU 84, TCNJ 79 (OT)

Women's Basketball		
North	NJAC	Overall
MSU	2-0	3-4
William Paterson	1-0	5-2
Ramapo	1-1	3-4
NJCU	1-1	2-5
RU-Newark	1-1	2-6
South		
Kean	2-0	6-0
Rowan	1-1	4-3
TCNJ	0-1	3-3
Stockton	0-2	1-6
RU-Camden	0-2	0-7

This Week  
12/16 @ Mt. Saint Vincent TBA

Last Week  
12/6 MSU 66, TCNJ 55

## Fall Semester MVP



Tyler Masterson

**SENIOR FORWARD TYLER MASTERSON EARNED THE MONTCLARION'S MOST VALUABLE PLAYER AWARD FOR THE FALL SEMESTER. MASTERSON SCORED 14 TIMES AND HAD 11 ASSISTS (39 POINTS) IN 22 GAMES THIS SEASON.**

Ice Hockey	
	SECHL
Siena	6 - 1 - 1
WPU	6 - 0
Marist	4 - 3 - 1
CCSU	3 - 2
MSU	3 - 4
UNH	2 - 5
Holy Cross	1 - 6
NYU	0 - 7

This Week  
12/12 vs. C.W. Post 9:20 p.m.  
12/14 @ Bryant 4 p.m.

Last Week  
12/6 MSU 4, UNH 2  
12/7 UMASS 9, MSU 6

Swimming & Diving	
MEN'S TOP TIMES	
50 Freestyle -	John Adams: 22.89
100 Freestyle -	Tim Chambrovich: 50.36
WOMEN'S TOP TIMES	
50 Freestyle -	Raquel Erwin: 25.70
100 Freestyle -	Nicole Van Avery: 26.17

## Red Hawk Trivia

**Who holds the Men's Swimming record for the 50 Meter Freestyle?**

**Last Week's Answer:**

Carol Blazejowski was an All-American in 1976, 1977 and 1978 and is MSU Women's Basketball's only three-time All-American.

**MAGIC  
NUMBER**

**4**

*Games in a row MSU Men's Basketball has won (4-2 overall record).*



## Red Hawks Win Two NJAC Matchups Williams and Young Team Up to Take Down NJCU, TCNJ

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

MSU 77, NJCU 66

JAMES WILLIAMS  
26 POINTS

ALI MIX  
13 PTS

DANIEL MCRAE  
12 PTS, SIX STEALS

MSU 84, TCNJ 79 (OT)

SEAN YOUNG  
22 POINTS

JAMES WILLIAMS  
20 POINTS

DANIEL MCRAE  
10 POINTS, 11 REBOUNDS

Mike Monostra  
Staff Writer

After a rough 0-3 start to the regular season, the Montclair State men's basketball team has been on a roll lately. Opening up conference play against rivals New Jersey City and TCNJ, the men's team rattled off two wins to extend their winning streak to four games last week.

Last Wednesday, the Red Hawks hosted a young and pesky New Jersey City squad that battled hard throughout the entire match. The first portion of the first half was tight, as neither team could pull ahead by more than four points. However, about halfway through the first half, the Red Hawks went out on a 9-0 run that saw six points from sophomore James Williams. This pulled the Red Hawks ahead 24-15, a lead which they would extend to 35-24 by the end of the first half.

The second half saw the Red Hawks all but put the ball game away as they continued to pile on points, going up by as much as 20 with just 8:35 remaining. The Gothic Knights played hard to the end, cutting down the MSU lead to 12 with still 5:08 to play. However, the Red Hawks would play tough defense and hang on to a 77-66 victory. Williams had a big game with a team high 26 points. Freshman Ali Mix also put in 12 points of his own, and junior Daniel McRae had four blocks and six steals to go with his 12 points.

Montclair would go on to play a very exciting match with the TCNJ Lions on Saturday afternoon at the Rec Center. The Red

Hawks got off to a fast start, opening the game with a 9-2 run to get the early lead. The Lions fought back, however, eventually tying the game at 19 with just under nine minutes left in the first half. The game continued to be a back and forth struggle, as the Red Hawks would jump back out to a five-point lead, only to see the Lions go on a 11-2 run to close the half and take a 41-37 lead going into halftime.

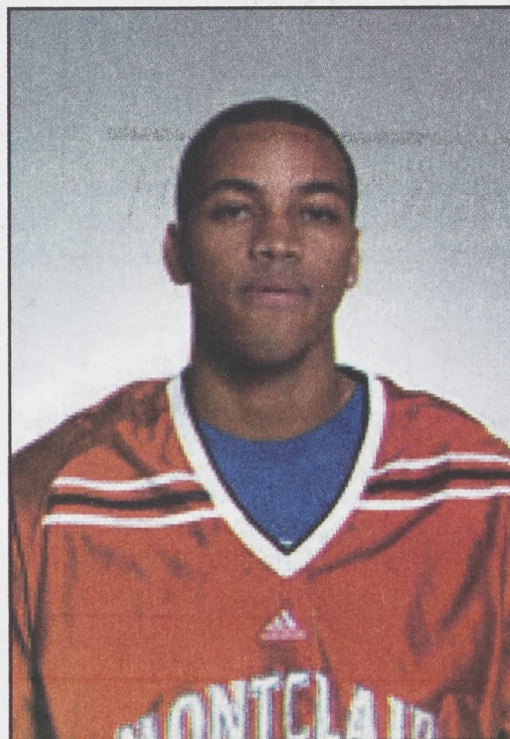
The game was a tough struggle in the second half, as neither team got more than three points up in the first six minutes. The Red Hawks would take a quick 6-0 run to jump out to a five-point lead with 13:40 left. The Lions again closed the gap, tying the game up with 8:39 remaining and even-

tually retaking the lead at 60-59 with 6:04 left. The Lions got up by as much as five points with 1:24 left before the Red Hawks rallied from behind. The sophomore Williams would steal the show, with a pair of free throws and two layups in just over a minute to single-handedly tie the game at 68 more the Red Hawks with 11 seconds left. TCNJ's Jay Frank would miss a short jumper as time expired, sending the game into overtime.

The late Montclair rally gave them momentum going into the extra session, and they took advantage, going on a 9-2 run to open up the period, with seven of those nine points coming from Williams. That opened up a seven-point lead for the Red Hawks with just 2:56 to go, and time eventually would run out on the Lions. Sophomore Sean Young talked about the significance of the win following the game.

"We were able to get ourselves back into the game at the end of regulation with great persistent play on the offensive boards. In OT, we really took care of the game by hitting important free throws down the stretch. Overall, it was an important league game; it was important for us to keep the winning streak going, and most of all get over 500."

The Red Hawks are now 4-3 on the year and 2-0 in the NJAC. They will play four games in four days this week as they host Berkeley on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. before playing in the Messiah/Hampton Inn Tournament this weekend. They will play three games over the weekend in Grantham, Pennsylvania, including a double-header on Saturday.



Courtesy of Sports Information  
Sophomore center Sean Young scored 22 points in the 84-79 win over TCNJ.

## Women's Basketball Takes Two Against NJCU and TCNJ Red Hawks Improve to 2-0 in NJAC Play as Ericson and Berry Come up Big

Mike Monostra  
Staff Writer

The Montclair Lady Hawks basketball team finally found their stride as they opened NJAC play last week. After losing four of their first five games, including back-to-back overtime losses, the Red Hawks opened up conference play with two solid victories over New Jersey City and The College of New Jersey.

Wednesday's conference opener against the NJCU Gothic Knights was a solid performance by Montclair, who led for all but the first couple minutes of the game. The game was back and forth for about the first eight minutes of the game until the Red Hawks went on a 12-0 run that was started by back-to-back layups from sophomore Jamilee Pflung and senior Marianne McGovern, as well as a three-pointer from freshman Jaime Ericson. The big run gave MSU a 25-11 lead with nine minutes remaining in the second half. The Knights failed to make up any ground in the remaining nine minutes, and the Red Hawks led at the half 40-24.

The Red Hawks were able to bust the game open with another huge run in the second half. Leading 44-32 with 14:20 left in the second half, Montclair would go on a scorching 28-8 run over the next nine minutes to pull ahead 72-40. Pflung poured in nine points on the scoring run alone, and Ericson would also have seven in that time. The Gothic Knights would make a late surge at the end, scoring 22 of the final 24 points, but it was not enough as the Red Hawks pulled out a 74-62 victory. Junior Kisandra Ayanbeku had a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds, while the freshman Ericson led the team with 17 points. Catherine Cristino had a big day defensively with five blocked

shots and three steals.

Saturday, the Red Hawks had a tough test against the TCNJ Lions, who were picked in a NJAC Coaches poll to finish first in the South division. Montclair did not seem to be phased by this, however, and pulled out a tough 66-55 win. The Red Hawks faced a tough battle from the start, as both teams struggled with shooting from the field in the game. Montclair shot just 28.3 percent overall, but on the flip side hit 45.5 percent from beyond the arc and 79.5 percent at the free throw line. In the first half, the Red Hawks would get out to a slow start, falling behind early, but a 9-2 run about five minutes in, capped off by a McGovern layup, would give Montclair a 14-8 lead, a lead they held going into halftime at 29-23.

Coming out in the second half, the Red Hawks were slow out of the gate, allowing TCNJ to put up the first nine points of the half and take a quick 32-29 lead. The Red Hawks would surge back, going on a 10-2 run themselves with an Ericson three-pointer, giving them a five-point lead. The

back and forth battle raged onward, as the Lions continued to close to a few points of the Red Hawks, trailing by only two as late as 7:31 remaining in the half. However, the remaining time from that point was all Montclair, as they went on a 15-7 run to get out in front 61-51 with just 1:45 left and were able to put on the cruise control from there. Ericson was the leading scorer again on Saturday, putting up 20 points. Junior Jackie Berry just nearly missed her first career double-double with 10 points and a team high nine rebounds.

McGovern, who had 11 points, five assists and three steals vs. TCNJ, talked about the team's recent success, which has translated into two straight wins.

"I think that we struggled a little bit in the beginning of the season to find a flow within our team, but I think it is all starting to come together. I feel as though we are going to have a great season, and beating TCNJ is hopefully just the beginning of a successful season."

The Red Hawks, at 2-0 in the NJAC and 3-4 overall, take a break from conference and have two more games until the end of the semester. They will host Baruch College Wednesday at 5:30 at the Rec Center. Ericson gave some insight on the team's preparation for the game.

"Our coaching staff always prepares us well before every game. They give us scouting reports, and we learn the other team's personnel as well as how to defend them and their different plays. Baruch is a good team, and it is going to be another tough game, but I think we are well prepared."

Montclair will travel to Mt. St. Vincent on Tuesday Dec. 16 before breaking for the holidays. For a full schedule, go to [www.montclair.edu/athletics](http://www.montclair.edu/athletics).



Courtesy of Sports Information  
Freshman guard Jaime Ericson scored 20 points in the 66-55 win vs. TCNJ.

### WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

MSU 74, NJCU 62

JAIME ERICSON  
17 POINTS, EIGHT REBOUNDS

KISANDRA AYANBEKU  
10 POINTS, 10 REBOUNDS

CATHERIN CRISTINO  
13 POINTS, FIVE BLOCKS

MSU 66, TCNJ 55

JAIME ERICSON  
20 POINTS

JAMILEE PFLUNG  
12 POINTS

JACKIE BERRY  
10 POINTS, NINE REBOUNDS